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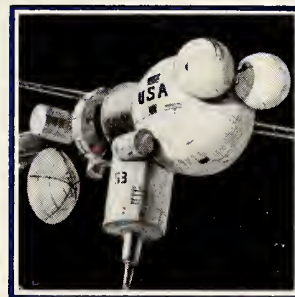
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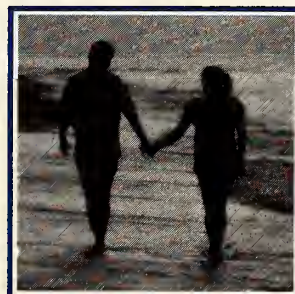
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### THE COVER

*A 1952 nuclear explosion in Nevada. Photri photo*



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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.5 million members. These military-service veterans, working through 16,000 community-level Posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; a strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service, and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.



## Farm Policy Mess

Any program in agriculture for 1985 must assure our American people that we are preserving the true farm family operation. Too many corporations, investing individuals, or developers have used the government programs to pay for land investments. Tax laws have been used to hide income by the building and land depreciation tax incentive, created to assist business and industry.

We must have a farm program which allows an orderly production of food and fiber; and we must be allowed to compete on a free and open foreign market, even to the extent of using a subsidy to match foreign competition. We must make every effort to deny land investors the benefits of a true farm program. I believe America will support a farm program generous enough to preserve our family farms and land. This, I believe, should be the goal of our President and Congress.

*Eugene Skaar  
Cottage Grove, Wis.*

It does very little for my confidence in government to read the authors of

national agricultural policy—a policy conceded by its authors as one of encouraging overproduction, price-depressing manipulations, etc.—now expressing concern over the outcome of that policy. These people knowingly sought to divert discretionary spending from food to the industrial and service sectors. They did so by systematically encouraging overproduction, largely through Extension teachings. They succeeded in driving the cost of food down from 25 percent of family income in 1950 to less than 14 percent today, to the point where farmers can no longer borrow to make up the difference. This has been done to please the urban voters.

Now the game is over and the farmers who listened to USDA/Extension rhetoric are the casualties. Farm “aid” has never been farm aid, but rather consumer aid, through farmers who were too trusting to reject the scheme. It would be appropriate if those in government who hatched and executed such a disastrous cheap-food policy could be held to account for their deeds.

*Martin S. Harris Jr.  
Vergennes, Vt.*

## A Melting Pot?

Once in a while Congress drafts a bill to curb illegal immigration, but it always falls by the wayside. This country is no longer the proverbial “melting pot” of old. Most of the immigrants now want to keep their language, customs and dress, but they have no qualms about our monetary system. They refuse to give up their old ways for a life that many of us gave up our lives to preserve.

*George Hayward  
E. Providence, R.I.*

## Hail the Hero

“Hail the Hero” (June) by Joseph C. Keeley said what I have been saying for several years, only he said it a lot better. I see nothing heroic about a ball player who is paid \$500,000 or more for hitting a home run or pushing over a winning touchdown. When the term is used so loosely, I think it cheapens it. I saw several infantrymen during World War II who I thought deserved the appellation far more, yet no one ever heard of them.

As for our rock stars and movie stars being labeled heroes: That is so silly, it's ridiculous. The draft dodgers and the people who boosted the communists during the Vietnam War are even worse. However, many are idolized. Jane Fonda has received every honor Hollywood could bestow since her trip to North Vietnam, and people still line up to see her movies.

All of this is a sad commentary on our nation's sense of values.

*David Kitchen  
Poplar Bluff, Mo.*

This was one of the best articles I've read in a long time. I, too, have been chagrined to see “hero” used for sports figures, politicians, movie stars and media personalities. I agree with Mr. Keeley that “today, more than ever, we need genuine heroes—to give us an ideal toward which to strive.”

*Stanley J. Bozich  
Frankenmuth, Mich.*

Korea produced one of our all-time great heroes. While the 24th Infantry Division was engaged with the Chinese communists, a platoon leader named Stanley Adams had the 12 men left in his platoon fix bayonets and

## Shall We Heed An Ancient Plea?



We live in a violent world, devoid of easy choices. Often we yearn for the tranquility of simpler ages past as we hear each day of despicable acts of terrorism, wars and threats of war, and the sincere plead-

ings of those who beg for moderation and restraint lest our nation, by its own actions, plunge the world into global holocaust.

Yet our dilemma is not new; it is as old as mankind itself. If we search the ancient writings of civilizations long past, we will find that the choices we face today are not much different from those faced centuries before. Consider, for example, the following excerpt from an impassioned speech delivered by Demosthenes to his fellow Athenians some 2,400 years ago, as Philip of Macedonia growled outside the gates of Athens.

“Athenians, is it in our power to deliberate on war or peace? If another, having arms in hand and a large force around

him amuses you with the name of peace while he carries on the operations of war, what is left but to defend yourselves?

“You may profess to be at peace, if you like, as he does . . . But if any man supposes this to be a peace which will enable your enemy to master all else and attack you last, he is a madman, or he talks of a peace observed toward him by you, not toward you by him. That is what Philip purchases by all his expenditures—the privilege of assailing you without being assailed in turn.

“If we really wait until he is at war with us, we are the simplest of mortals, for he would not declare war even though his armies were attacking us. Nevertheless, whoever moves or advises a measure of defense is in danger of being accused of starting a war.

“Nevertheless, I say move instantly to defend yourselves. I say you will be wise; delay it and you may wish in vain to do so hereafter.”

There is a lesson contained therein that is timeless, and the United States would do well to heed it, especially as we now debate the efficacy of building a “Star Wars” defense.

*The Editors*



then he led them in a charge against 150 of the enemy. He and his men routed them. Adams was given credit for personally killing 50—mostly with his bayonet and gun butt.

Eight of Adams' men were killed and Adams and many of the others were badly wounded. For his "genuine heroism." Adams was awarded the Medal of Honor. The real "Blood and Guts" of our armed forces and the real "heroes" of our nation are represented by combat troops like Stanley Adams and his men.

*Paul A. Fraser  
Bend, Ore.*

## Pentagon Waste

A. Ernest Fitzgerald's compelling tale of the waste in defense contracting (May) is the latest of this courageous whistle-blower's reports on this problem. Joseph H. Sherick's argument that DoD is a "competent, capable and frugal steward" of our tax dollars (May) would be laughable, were it not such a serious distortion. Whether we continue to read stories about this appalling condition will prove who is correct about this issue—Fitzgerald or Sherick.

*Patrick Groff  
San Diego, Calif.*

What will it take to stop Americans from robbing and cheating fellow Americans? Why is our government expected to police this? Large defense corporations cause the greatest losses. Why not make their executive officers responsible? A chairman of the board or a company president put in jail for such an offense would eliminate the problem in a hurry!

*Dan Oredson  
Denver, Colo.*

## Taps Is Tops

"The Story Behind Taps" (May) was most interesting and well done by William L. Noyer; however, he missed one bit of research. The words to this beautiful music were well displayed above the art, but the words' origin was omitted. To me, the words seem as beautiful as the story. I would appreciate an additional story about the origin of the words.

*Reed L. Madsen  
Richfield, Utah*

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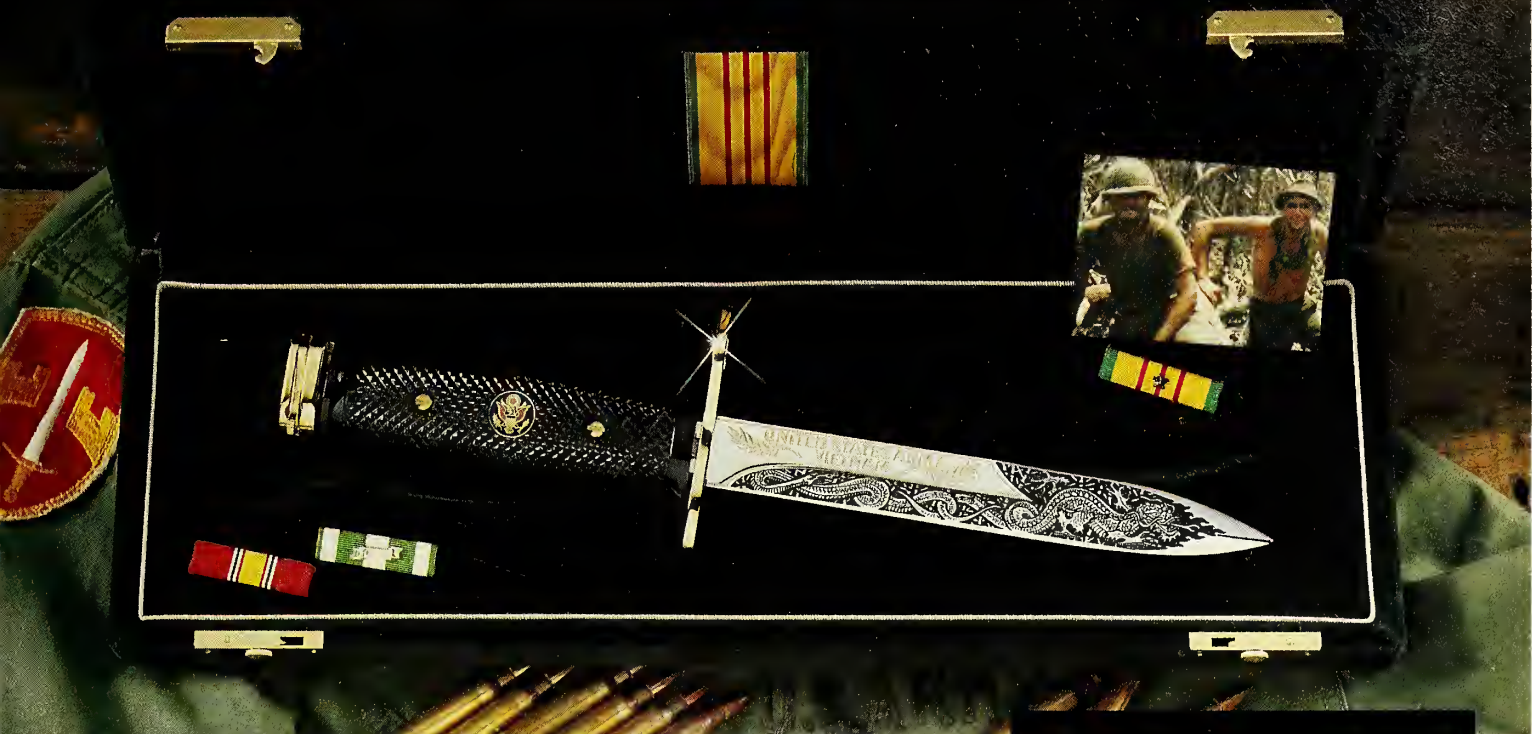
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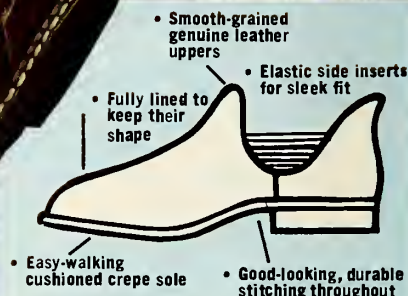
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# 'We Can Stand Tall and Proud in Our Accomplishment'

**T**HIS is my last magazine message as your National Commander and my thoughts span a number of areas. Space is not available to list all of them, but I do wish to enumerate some of the most notable ones.

First, my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for making this a most successful year for America, America's veterans and The American Legion. Foremost, you can all take pride in the significant increase achieved in membership. We, the 1984-1985 team, have reversed the downward trend of recent years and can stand tall and proud in our accomplishment—the largest single increase in membership since 1946. And we have just scratched the surface. Next year can and should be even better, but we must start early and keep our shoulders to the wheel. There absolutely is no substitute for "hard work" and "personal contact".

Second, my travels this year have taken me to the four corners of the world—the Far East, Central America three times, Europe, all eight regional leadership conferences, the Lincoln and Eisenhower pilgrimages and to virtually every one of our 58 American Legion Departments. At each location and on each visit I have sought and received the advice and counsel of "grass-roots" Legionnaires—the backbone of our great organization. And I am pleased to report that all aspects of The American Legion are healthy, enthusiastic and growing. Our programs are unequalled. We are the largest and best volunteer organization in America. Our membership consists entirely of "wartime" veterans. While our programs are many and varied, they can be classified within our four major mission responsibilities:

- Veterans affairs and rehabilitation—service to the veteran and care of the veteran's spouse and children;



*Nat'l. Cdr. Clarence M. Bacon*

- National security and foreign relations—peace through preparedness. That is keeping America's defense posture sufficiently strong and ready to deter any aggressor.

NOTE: National security of the United States is the number one priority of The American Legion; veterans benefits and programs rank second only to national security;

- Children and Youth—get involved in community projects. Help build, grow, support and increase the well being and potential, both educational and physical, of America's youth; and

- Americanism—remember and observe patriotic holidays and incidents such as World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day and Flag Day. Be especially thankful to those who have sacrificed fortunes and life to keep America and other nations free and prosperous.

From its founding, The American Legion, the largest wartime veterans organization in America, has been the

veteran's greatest advocate, the most prominent proponent and supporter of veterans rights and benefits.

Our programs span all areas of need within America and are particularly oriented to the veteran community.

A sterling example of this dedication to veterans recently has come in the form of the first report of The American Legion—Columbia University Study of Vietnam Era Veterans (See page 39). Drs. Jeanne and Steven Stellman, the project directors, released this initial information only a few weeks ago.

The preliminary information looks very promising. The first report examines socio-economic consequences of service in combat and non-combat areas during the Vietnam era. The differences for certain age groups are startling.

Reports in other areas will be forthcoming during the next year. They will address Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, possible effects of the herbicide Agent Orange, family and reproductive health of the study group, and attitudes and perceptions of the Veterans Administration medical care system.

This is an exciting moment. With the timely release of this information, one more positive step by The American Legion on behalf of this nation's veteran population will have been met. The following months will be ones in which The American Legion once again will be acknowledged as the leader in unearthing the true cost of war to America and her veterans.

We have made great strides in addressing specific needs of various veteran populations, including the aging veteran and the needs of women veterans. I am grateful that, during my year as your national commander, I have had the opportunity to initiate the release of these findings and usher in another phase of American Legion service to all generations of America's veterans. □



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## SPIKE JONES "The Wacky World Of Spike Jones."



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## HOWARD KEEL "Star of TV's Dallas!"



Hear his great voice sing every single classic hit with love-for yesterday, today and tomorrow. Listen with someone you love!

SEND IN THE CLOWNS • MEMORY • THE GIRL THAT I MARRY • OL MAN RIVER • MAKE BELIEVE • IF THIS IS ALL I ASK • WHY ON EARTH • LOVE YOU • ROSEMARIE • SO IN LOVE • THEY SAY IT'S WONDERFUL • MY DEFENSES ARE DOWN • BLESS YOUR BEAUTIFUL HIDE • YESTERDAY, WHEN I WAS YOUNG • AND I LOVE YOU SO • WHAT SO SAID • ALWAYS ON MY MIND • I'VE NEVER BEEN TO ME • BORN AGAIN • SOFTLY AS I LEAVE YOU.

## LES PAUL & MARY FORD "Solid Gold!"



All their fabulous solid gold hits are here in one fantastic double-length collection! Their magic sound is a part of America's music that you will treasure again and again!

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## MILLS BROTHERS "Their Best-Loved Hits."



The fabulous Mills Brothers have made generations of music lovers happy for over four decades. Hear all their greatest hits in their sensational new collection.

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## VAUGHN MONROE "A Magnificent New Album!"



The golden voice of Vaughn Monroe on a great new double-length collection.

CHARMAINE • MOONLIGHT AND ROSES • THERE I'VE SAID IT AGAIN • RED ROSES FOR A BLUE LADY • RACING WITH THE MOON • CAROLINA MOON • LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING • GHOST RIDERS IN THE SKY • DID YOU EVER SEE A DREAM WALKING • COOL WATER • DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME • SOMEDAY (YOU'LL WANT ME TO WANT YOU) • BALLERINA • I WISH I DIDN'T LOVE YOU SO • LET IT SNOW! • KISS ME AGAIN • THE NIGHT IS YOUNG AND YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL.

## SAMMY KAYE "His Brand New Album!"



All of your favorites are here, all the original recordings, in this brand new collection entitled "Swing And Sway With Sammy Kaye."

HARBOR LIGHTS • DADDY • IT ISN'T FAIR • POWDER YOU FACE WITH SUNSHINE (SMILE, SMILE, SMILE) • BABY FACE • STAIRWAY TO THE STARS • BLUE SKIES • ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND • I LEFT MY HEART AT THE STAGE DOOR CANTEN • THERE'LL BE BLUEBERRIES OVER THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER • THE CYPRESS • CHICKENY CHICK • THE FOUR WINDS AND THE SEVEN SEAS • THE OLD LAMPLIGHTER • ROOM FULL OF ROSES • CUDDLE UP A LITTLE CLOSER • LAVENDER BLUE (DILLY, DILLY) • THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION.

## NAT "KING" COLE "Unforgettable!"



Here is the one and only Nat 'King' Cole singing all his greatest hits in one magnificent 2-record collection.

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## MARTY ROBBINS "His Brand New Collection!"



Discover a whole new Marty Robbins as he sings THE GREAT LOVE SONGS. You may just fall in love again!

YOU MADE ME LOVE YOU • MY BLUE HEAVEN • I'M IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE • AS TIME GOES BY • MY HAPPINESS • LOVE ME TENDER • ANSWER ME MY LOVE • UNCHAINED MELODY • I DON'T KNOW WHY (I JUST DO) • THAT OLD FEELING • TO EACH HIS OWN • RETURN TO ME • THE NEARNESS OF YOU • MISTY • TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS • ARE YOU SINCERE • TOO YOUNG • IT HAD TO BE YOU.

## FRANKIE CARLE "His Golden Touch!"



Here is the fantastic new double-length album just recorded by one of the greatest pianists of all time. He's better than ever!

BLUE SKIES • I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM • MARIE • CHEEK TO CHEEK • A PRETTY GIRL IS LIKE A MELODY • YOU'RE JUST IN LOVE • EASTER PARADE • ALWAYS • ALL BY MYSELF • IT'S A LOVELY DAY TODAY • ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND • HOW DEEP IS THE OCEAN • PLAY A SIMPLE MELODY • STEPPIN' OUT WITH MY BABY • PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ • SAY IT ISN'T SO • THEY SAY IT'S WONDERFUL • TOP HAT, WHITE TIE AND TAILS • ISN'T THIS A LOVELY DAY • REMEMBER • LET'S FACE THE MUSIC AND DANCE • WHAT'LL I DO • CHANGE PARTNERS • THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS • I LOVE A PIANO • THE GIRL THAT I MARRY.

## MITCH MILLER "His New Sing-Along Album."



From his golden days on TV, here is Mitch And The Gang singing 33 all-time favorites.

WHEN YOU WORE A TULIP • I'M FOREVER BLOWING BUBBLES • FOR ME AND MY GAL • SHINE ON HARVEST MOON • MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS • BILL BAILEY, WON'T YOU PLEASE COME HOME • SWEET ADELIN • LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART • CAROLINA IN THE MORNING • WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING • MY WILD IRISH ROSE • IN THE EVENING BY THE MOONLIGHT • POLLY WOLLY DOODLE • WAIT FOR THE WAGON • THE OLD GREY MARE • DON'T SIT UNDER THE APPLE TREE • LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY • HELLO! MY BABY • MOONLIGHT BAY • THERE'S YES! YES! IN YOUR EYES • SINGIN' IN THE RAIN • ALL I DO IS DREAM OF YOU • TOOT, TOOT TOOTIE GOODYE • WHILE STROLLING THROUGH THE PARK ONE DAY • IOA SWEET AS APPLE CIDER • A BICYCLE BUILT FOR TWO • PUT ON YOUR OLD GREY BONNET • I'M JUST WILD ABOUT HARRY • WHEN YOU WERE SWEET SIXTEEN • SILVER THREADS AMONG THE GOLD • THE WHIFFENPOOF SONG (BAA! BAA! BAA!) • PEGGY D' MY HEART • PEGGY D' NEIL.

## THE INK SPOTS "Their Fantastic New Collection!"



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## GUY & RALNA "Most-Loved Songs of Faith"



A stirring collection of 18 great sacred songs by the TV stars of the fabulous Lawrence Welk Musical Family.

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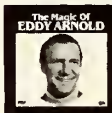
## THE HARMONICATS "World Famous!"



Here in one fantastic collection are all their greatest hits . . . sure to become one of the best-loved treasures in your music library.

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## EDDY ARNOLD "The Magic of Eddy Arnold."



Eddy Arnold is one of those artists who can truly be described as a living legend! This magnificent collection is one you and yours will always treasure, featuring:

MAKE THE WORLD GO AWAY • ANYTIME • WHAT'S HE DOING IN MY WORLD • YOUR CHEATIN' HEART • BOUQUET OF ROSES • FOR THE GOOD TIMES • JUST A LITTLE LOVIN' • COOL WATER • SIXTEEN TONS • CATTLE CALL • TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS • I REALLY DON'T WANT TO KNOW • TURN THE WORLD AROUND • STREETS OF LAREDO • THE LAST WORD IN LONESOME IS ME • MAY THE GOOD LORO BLESS AND KEEP YOU • YOU DON'T KNOW ME • TENNESSEE WALTZ.

## PERRY COMO "His Greatest Hits."



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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Vaughn Monroe	<input type="checkbox"/> Vaughn Monroe	<input type="checkbox"/> Vaughn Monroe
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Marty Robbins Love	<input type="checkbox"/> Marty Robbins Love	<input type="checkbox"/> Marty Robbins Love
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## The Russians Are Listening

If you are living in or near the nation's capital, and one day suspect someone's listening in on your phone conversations, you may be right. It could be the Soviets.

The new Soviet embassy is being built on 350-foot high Mt. Alto, just about the highest point in Washington. The hill used to be the site of a veterans hospital, but was turned over to the Soviets in exchange for a U.S. embassy location in Moscow.

From an eavesdropping standpoint, Mt. Alto is regarded as a magnificent spot for Soviet electronics experts to listen to private, commercial and diplomatic conversations, as well as military data transmitted through the air. Although the Pentagon and other government agencies have taken steps to bar and baffle the interceptions, no one knows if the steps have been successful.

Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, has proposed adoption of at least one restraint on the listening-in practice: Moynihan's bill would authorize expulsion of foreign diplomats who are caught eavesdropping.

## Upping the Speed Limit

Twelve years after Congress set a 55-mph speed limit on the nation's roads, resistance in rural and country areas has led to a demand to raise the limit to 65 mph outside urban centers.

A bill by Sen. Chic Hecht would give states the authority to increase auto speed limits to 65 mph on roads outside communities with 50,000 or more people. States currently refrain from such action for fear of losing federal highway construction dollars.

Hecht pointed out that the 55-mph limitation was imposed by Congress in 1973 to help overcome the Arab oil embargo. Since then, he said, conservation measures, additional energy sources and improvement of automotive technology have reduced fuel consumption.

While acknowledging that the lower speed has decreased highway fatalities, Hecht also noted that compliance has declined dramatically, with more than 75 percent of drivers exceeding the limit.

## Illiteracy on the Rise

Despite warnings more than 20 years ago from the late President John F. Kennedy that our country was headed for trouble unless illiteracy was stamped out, today we have 26 million adults who cannot read or write. More than 72 million barely read and write on a fifth-grade level, according to the Library of Congress, which estimates adult illiterates are increasing by 2.3 million each year.

Sen. Edward Zorinsky and several colleagues contend it is time to take another approach to the problem. They have proposed the National Commission on Illiteracy Act. The

commission would comprise a cross section of parents and representatives of the educational community, business, industry, military, government and minority groups, and would study the causes of, and recommend solutions to, illiteracy.

Figures show that this country is spending more each year for remedial courses in schools, colleges and government agencies. Uncle Sam offers some high school level courses for employees at taxpayers' expense. Last year the Army spent more than \$14 million to bring its recruits up to a ninth grade level in reading. Surprisingly, 90 percent were high school graduates.

Zorinsky also pointed out that although Congress passed the Education for Economic Security Act for \$100 million to improve the quality of math and science instruction in U.S. schools, elementary children are unable to read well enough to handle science at the secondary level in spite of more remedial reading being offered in schools than ever before.

## Give Senior Citizens a Break

Senior citizens should get a break from the bureaucratic red tape that plagues Americans, said Rep. Mario Biaggi, who has proposed legislation to reduce the paperwork burden the elderly suffer to qualify for government benefits and services. A recent survey by Biaggi's office pinpointed at least 12 different Social Security forms required for benefits.

In another example, the VA requires individual applications for burial benefits, burial flags, headstone and burial markers, and death pension. Biaggi said he feels it is a waste of time for VA employees and beneficiaries, not to mention a waste of taxpayer dollars, when applicants must fill out four different forms requesting similar information.

The legislation would order the Department of Health and Human Services to review information collection and recommend ways to reduce it. The agency is already under court order to simplify Medicare information.

Biaggi said simplification efforts have worked in the past with the IRS. In 1982, more than 15 million people used the short form when filing taxes. If the federal government can provide relief in some areas, said the congressman, the same kind of rationale and much-needed change will offer relief for our senior citizens.

## Quote of the Month

*"I think it's absolutely essential that we do the kind of research (on strategic defense) that perhaps we should have been doing for some years in the past.*

*"It's the one thing in all these recent discussions that they (the Soviets) are most anxious to have us stop . . . When they exert that amount of effort against a particular part of a program, you have to know it's right."*

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger



# It's not too late for **A FREE** Summer Vacation for You

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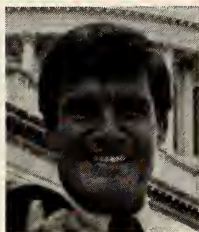


# Should the United States Withdraw From the United Nations?

**Rep. Phillip M. Crane, R-Ill.**

The United Nations was created in the closing days of World War II to promote a world of peace, prosperity, freedom and order. But in the 40 years of its existence, the world body has been turned into little more than a citadel of anti-American, anti-Western sentiment.

**YES**



Our continued disproportionate monetary support, as well as our housing of the United Nations on American soil, is deplorable. We must ask ourselves, is it in the best interest of the United States and those nations that share our belief in freedom and peace, to continue to support this spy-infested sham of an organization?

The United States pays 25 percent of the United Nations' budget. This payment of U.S. taxpayers' money comes to more than \$1 billion a year.

Twenty-five industrial democracies contribute 74.3 percent of the U.N. budget. Communist nations, including the Soviet Union, Communist China and 16 other havens of oppression, while using the United Nations as a forum to attack the policies of democratic nations, pay 17.1 percent.

I have proposed that if we are to remain in the United Nations, the budget should be distributed proportionately among member nations according to their population. If that were the case, the United States would pay 5.14 percent, while Communist China would pay close to 23 percent as opposed to the paltry .88 percent it now pays.

More serious than the U.N.'s monetary imbalance is the total inversion of its original goal as a peacekeeping body.

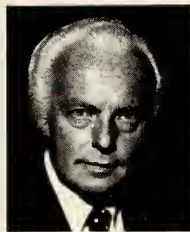
The majority of member nations no longer seek true peace. Instead, the condemnation and criticism of the United States and our allies appear to be the organization's sole purpose.

At the same time, while the Soviets slaughter Afghan civilians, blunt freedom efforts in Poland, shoot down unarmed civilian jetliners, supply terrorists in all corners of the world, the voice of the United Nations is all but silent.

The United States must act with resolve now, as we have in the past, to expose totalitarian regimes and their puppet nations which engage in terrorism and are guilty of revolting violations of human rights: We must disassociate ourselves from an organization which has abandoned its values and forgotten its goals.

□

**Rep. Tom Lantos, D-Calif.**



**NO**

We all agree that the United Nations has many and severe flaws. It has not matched the high expectations that accompanied its founding in San Francisco 40 years ago; its members have increasingly been critical and at times viciously hostile to important U.S. foreign policy

interests; it has proven increasingly ineffective in ensuring international peace and security; and it has become increasingly politicized.

Despite these obvious and well-publicized failings, however, there are four important reasons why the United States should continue its participation in this international organization.

First, the United Nations played a positive role in keeping the peace in such cases as the Multilateral Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus and the U.N. mediation effort during the 1965 India-Pakistani war.

Second, many of the U.N.'s associated organizations quietly play vital technical roles—the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Development Program and the Environmental Program.

Third, it is important for the United States to participate in shaping U.N. decisions. On many occasions this has served our interests. The international revulsion against the Soviet shooting down of a civilian South Korean airliner which was almost unanimously condemned by the United Nations —was an important aspect of the vigorous condemnation of that barbarous action.

Fourth, the United Nations represents an important symbolic dimension. Although this institution falls far short of our expectations, this does not mean that we should abandon all hope. The United States —the leading democratic society on this planet—must continue to work to see the United Nations reach toward the high expectations that its founders held, and not withdraw when it falls short of these aims.

In sum, the United Nations is terribly flawed. But it reflects our terribly flawed world. Our interest is to make the world—and the United Nations —less flawed. We are in a far better position to do this from within than from the outside. Remaining in the United Nations is clearly in the American national interests.

□



# FIRST STRIKE!

*The Soviets' massive nuclear inventory far surpasses what is needed for defensive purposes. The USSR may now have the potential to cripple the United States with one swift, unprovoked missile attack.*



PHOTRI, INC

**By Dr. Robert Jastrow**

**T**HE SOVIET UNION has created a massive nuclear stockpile that seems to be designed for the destruction of the United States, rather than as a deterrent to an attack on the Soviet Union. It consists of many thousands of highly accurate nuclear warheads, any one of which can deposit the equivalent of a half a million pounds of TNT within a 250-yard radius of a target.

Warheads as accurate as this can land close enough to hardened military sites to cave them in and demolish them. These highly accurate Soviet warheads have only one purpose—to destroy the missile silos and other military installations of the United States and cripple our power to retaliate against a Soviet attack.

For many years the safety of the United States has rested on the assumption that if the Soviet Union attacked, we would be able to destroy

the Soviet homeland in retaliation. Of course, the Soviets could also destroy us if we attacked them. This is called security through Mutual Assured Destruction, or MAD. An important part of MAD is the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, which says that the United States and Soviet Union both guarantee to keep themselves defenseless against a nuclear attack by the other country. The ABM treaty is supposed to further discourage an attack by ensuring that the retaliation will be devastating.

Because of the Soviet missile buildup and the resultant threat to our retaliatory forces, the whole theory of MAD is collapsing like a house of cards. If the Soviets have a sufficient number of accurate missiles to wipe out our own nuclear force in a surprise attack, they will not be deterred by the fear of retaliation, because we will not be able to retaliate.

That is just what has happened. As a result, this nation faces the greatest peril it has ever known.

There is no doubt about the deadly

## THE LEGION'S POSITION ON SDI

**T**HE American Legion demonstrated its support for the Strategic Defense Initiative with Resolution 229, adopted in September 1984 at the 66th National Convention in Salt Lake City:

"Resolved, That we applaud the President's change in the national strategy of deterrence from one of mutually assured destruction wherein populations are held hostage to the threat of destruction from nuclear weapons, to a strategy of protecting our population

through defensive measures; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we urge Congress to support the President's initiatives in re-establishing our anti-missile system effort using all latitudes available including the existing ABM treaties; and,

"Resolved, That vigorous research and development be undertaken to increase our anti-ballistic missile capability using all techniques, including space, as these techniques can be developed."

*Dr. Robert Jastrow, founder of the NASA Institute for Space Studies and professor at Dartmouth College, is a leading authority on space.*



purpose of those Soviet missiles. Their accuracy reveals the intent. If the Soviets had built their missiles mainly to prevent the United States from attacking them, they would have done what we did and placed most of the missiles on submarines. A missile launched from a submarine is too inaccurate to destroy a hardened military target made of reinforced concrete and buried under tons of earth. That requires a nearly direct hit. (The reason for the inaccuracy of submarine-launched missiles is simple. The submarine does not know exactly where it is in the ocean, and therefore cannot tell exactly where its warheads will land. Missiles that correct for these errors in mid-flight are being developed, but they will not be available in substantial numbers until the next decade.)

A submarine missile can flatten a city because that does not require pinpoint accuracy; you do not have to explode a nuclear warhead within 250 yards of Times Square to destroy New York. So, if you want to threaten to destroy the enemy's cities to keep him from attacking you, submarine missiles are very useful. But if you want to build a first-strike force, you put your missiles on the land, where they can be aimed accurately. That is what the Soviets did.

**T**HE UNITED STATES also has some land missiles, with warheads about as accurate and destructive as the best Soviet warheads. These are the Minuteman III missiles with Mark 12A warheads. However, we only have 900 of them. That is not enough to place at risk more than a tiny fraction of the 4000 or so top-priority Soviet targets. Targeting two warheads on each hardened site, 900 warheads could take out at most 10 percent of the important Soviet military sites. Our first-strike missiles would hardly make a dent in the Soviet power to retaliate.

In other words, our Minuteman missiles are not a first-strike force. They have the accuracy, but not the necessary numbers, to cripple Soviet military power.

But the situation is even worse than that because the Soviet missile buildup has placed our land-based missiles in jeopardy, to the point where up to 95 percent of the American missiles would be destroyed in their silos by a Soviet first strike, according to defense experts. The few missiles that

escaped, which would carry less than 100 warheads, would be unable to inflict any significant damage on Soviet military sites.

The Soviet nuclear missile force, on the other hand, includes more than 8,000 accurate and destructive warheads.

With two warheads targeted on each important military site in the United States, these Soviet missiles could destroy every one of the 4,000 critical U.S. military sites. The Soviet nuclear arsenal is a true first-strike force.

Our nuclear arsenal does contain other accurate weapons—the nuclear

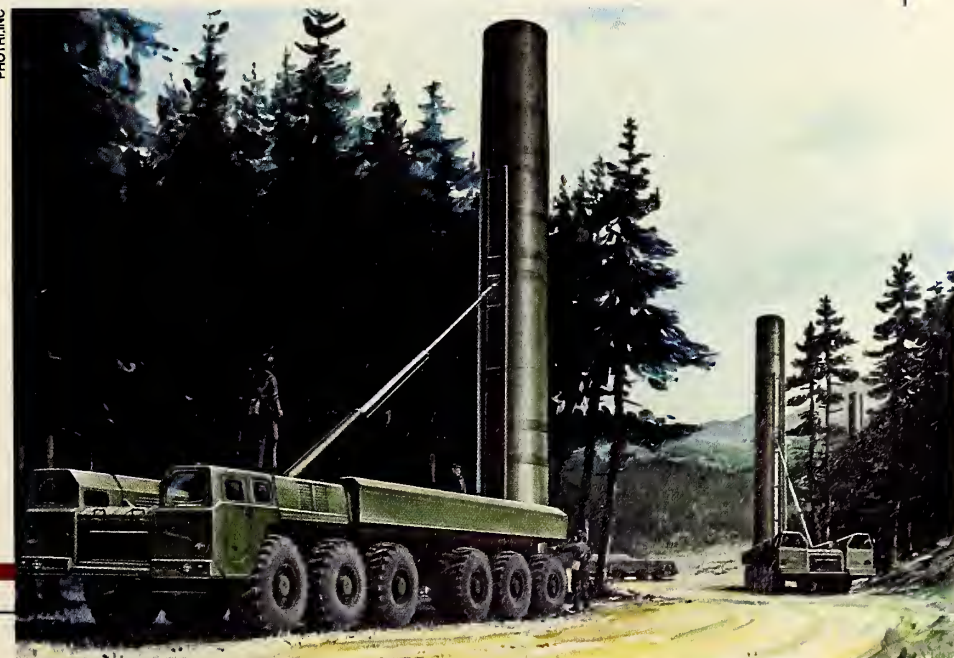
bombs carried by B-52 bombers and cruise missiles. But according to Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, the B-52 can no longer penetrate Soviet air defenses, which are the most massive in the world. The new B-1B bombers, just going into production, are designed to penetrate the latest Soviet air defenses. But Congress has only approved funding for 100 B-1Bs, and even this small

**MOBILE MISSILES**—With a range of 7,456 miles, some 300 Soviet SS-18 missiles alone could destroy 80 percent of the American ICBM silos.

**AFTER THE STRIKE**—A retaliatory attempt by the United States would mean penetrating an extensive Soviet defense system supported by SAM-2 missiles.

SOVPHOTO

PHOTO/INC





force will not be fully available until late in this decade. At the present time our bombers cannot be counted on as an important deterrent to a Soviet attack.

As for the cruise missile, it is my impression that its effectiveness is overrated. The current generation of American cruise missiles is vulnerable to the new look-down, shoot-down Soviet Foxhound fighters. In Soviet tests, a Foxhound at an altitude of 20,000 feet destroyed drone aircraft, imitating American cruise missiles, that were hugging the ground at 200 feet. These Soviet advances in air defense may explain why the Defense Department recently cut its order of air-launched cruise missiles from 4,348 to 1,499.

Improved cruise missiles with stealth technology are under development, but will not be available in large numbers before the 1990s. Until then, the air-launched cruise missile also cannot be counted on as a major deterrent to Soviet attacks.

With our land-based missiles, bombers and cruise missiles vulnerable to Soviet forces, what is left? The answer is—submarines. The American fleet of submarines has become our principal protection against a Soviet nuclear attack. Each ballistic missile submarine carries enough missiles to destroy all the large cities in the Soviet Union. Relying on these submarines as our main deterrent does not seem like a bad idea, because the newest submarines have very quiet engines and are hard to find, so the Soviets cannot count on eliminating most of them in the first wave of their attack, as they

can with our land-based missiles.

The bottom line is that at the present time the security of the United States is suspended by a single thread—our fleet of ballistic missile submarines. If these submarines were ever to lose their undersea cloak of invisibility, that thread would snap.

Several lines of research indicate that this may happen at some point in the 1990s. For example, a submarine churns up cold water from below depths, creating a cold-water "wake" that is invisible to the eye but can be seen clearly by heat-sensitive instruments on satellites. Heat from the nuclear reactor on the submarine also creates warm water, which rises to the surface and produces another kind of temperature disturbance over the submerged sub. The two effects don't cancel each other. The result is a thermal "wake" that can be picked up by instruments in satellites.

Submerged submarines also create a surface signal in the form of changes in the "sea-state"—the irregular pattern of waves and wavelets that continually crosses the ocean surface. Details of the sea-state can be measured from satellites with a new type of radar. This line of submarine detection is particularly promising and the USSR is reportedly pursuing it with vigor.

In our present defenseless state—dictated by the ABM treaty—the loss of invisibility for our submarines will be a catastrophe, for we will then have lost our most important means of retaliation against Soviet attacks. The Soviet Union, with its huge first-strike force of land-based missiles, will then

*Continued on page 48*

**H**OW would a space-based defense system against a Soviet missile attack on the United States work? Or would it work at all?

To get at the answers to these crucial questions, you have to think in terms of two different systems—one using presently available technology and the other relying on "far out" approaches. Here's how Dr. Robert Jastrow, author of the foregoing article, puts it:

"An advanced defense against Soviet missiles, using exotic technologies such as the laser and the neutral particle beam, may become a reality by the end of the century. Americans will rest easier when that defense is in place, for it will mean that the prospect of a Soviet first strike is essentially nil.

"Meanwhile, the technologies that are already in hand will allow us to put into place in the early 1990s a simple but highly effective defense at a cost of roughly \$60 billion. A conservative estimate of the effectiveness of this defense is 90 percent, which means that only one Soviet warhead in 10 will reach its target. This is more than sufficient to guarantee devastating U.S. retaliation and discourage Soviet leaders from any thought of achieving a successful strike.

"This limited defense will be based on the off-the-shelf technology of the smart bullet. That technology is mature and unexotic and its deployment around the end of the decade involves no further research, but only a relatively modest degree of engineering development of existing hardware."

These quotes are from Jastrow's new book, "How to Make Nuclear Weapons Obsolete" (Little, Brown and Company). Providing needed insights into the technologies behind all the "Star Wars" talk, Jastrow points out that a first-step missile defense system would consist of two layers—a boost-phase defense that tackles Soviet missiles as they rise above the atmosphere, and a terminal defense that intercepts the warheads at the end of their trajectories, as they descend toward their targets in the United States.

The essential element in this system is the "smart bullet"—a projectile that homes in on its target using radar or heat waves and destroys it on impact. The interceptor rocket for this phase is seen as an advanced version of the

SOVIET



**LETHAL BACK-UP**—Backing up the Soviet lethal first-strike arsenal is the SS-21 nuclear-capable, tactical rocket, designed to eliminate retaliatory attempts by U.S. ground forces and other NATO contingents on the European continent.



# 'STAR WARS' DEFENSE: FACT OR SCIENCE FICTION?

air defense interceptors that are in operational use in our Air Force today. These weigh about 500 pounds, and the smart bullets they carry (which are non-nuclear) weigh 10 pounds.

Jastrow estimates a need for a space-based force of 100 satellites, each holding 150 interceptors, or enough to counter a mass attack from all 1,400 Soviet missile silos. Also needed would be four early-warning satellites in geosynchronous or stationary orbits and 10 lower-altitude satellites dedicated to surveillance and tracking, plus ground control communications and battle management. He sees the system working like this:

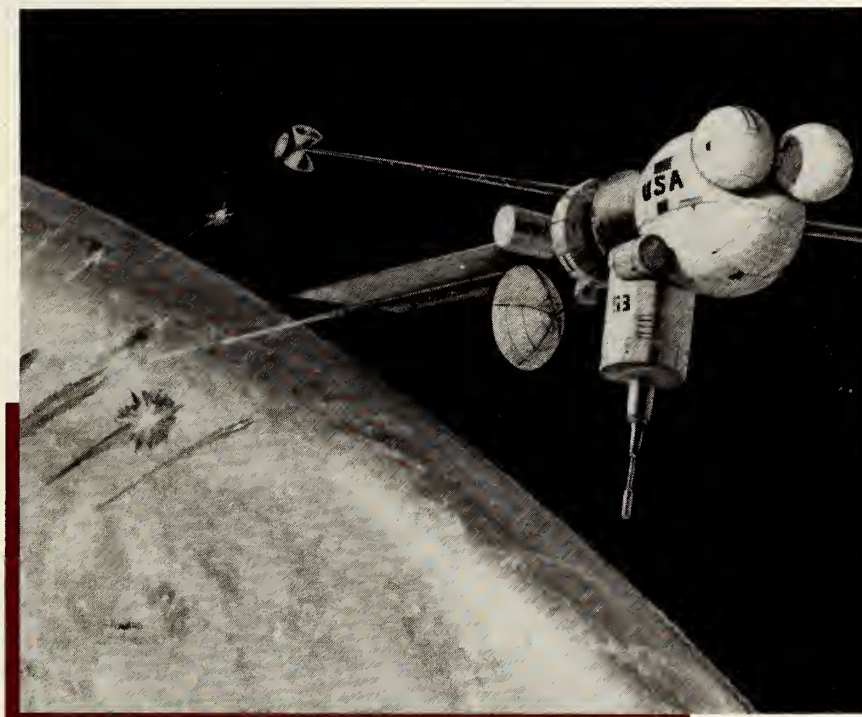
"The rockets with their smart bullets would be stored in pods on satellites and fired from space. The tracking information needed to guide them would be acquired from satellites orbiting over the Soviet missile fields.

"Heat-sensitive eyes on the satellites look for the tell-tale flames of the missile launch, follow the course of the missile as it rises, and pass their information on to computers which calculate the probable path of the missiles.

"The high-altitude satellites flash their information to the fleet of satellites at lower altitudes—the battle-management satellites and those that carry the weapons to be used against the Soviet missiles. These satellites begin to track the moving missiles. In a few more seconds, they fire."

The technology used for terminal defense would be based mainly on what Jastrow describes as "a small homing interceptor, also non-nuclear, with a heat-seeking sensor, launched by a rocket." Such interceptors, he wrote, could be ready for deployment in five years if a decision were reached to follow this course.

Farther out "Star Wars" concepts envision a fleet of satellites similarly orbiting over the Soviet Union, each containing a powerful laser and a large concave mirror to reflect the laser beam toward the missile, focusing it



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

**RAILGUN—Nuclear-armed, re-entry missiles can be intercepted and destroyed by advanced technology such as this space-based electromagnetic railgun.**

on the skin until it softens or melts. Beyond the laser are still more exotic weapons possibilities, such as the Neutral Particle Beam. As Jastrow explained, a laser beam is absorbed at a missile's surface but a NPB beam passes right through and enters the brains of the missile—the electronic computer that guides it on its course—driving the missile off its proper path so that it begins to tumble and destroy itself.

Then there's the Electromagnetic Railgun which uses an intense magnetic field to propel smart bullets at "much higher speeds than a rocket," enabling them to intercept and destroy missiles far more readily than at present.

Also being researched are other deadly devices known as the X-Ray Laser, Excimer Lasers and the Elec-

tron Beam. Trouble is, as Jastrow concludes, "the potential of the new technologies will not be clear for another three to five years, and some years beyond that may be needed to shape the best of them into practical defenses against missiles, which means that these new technologies may not come into use before the mid or late 1990s."

Meanwhile, according to Jastrow, the Russians are going all out to develop their own military capabilities in space—with the aim of stopping a U.S. missile counter-attack in its tracks. If the United States then had no comparable space defense system, the USSR would be able to launch a first-strike nuclear attack with little fear of retaliation. It's this kind of nightmare scenario that lends urgency to U.S. "Star Wars" planning. □



# THE OTHER ARMS RACE

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

### IN THE THIRD WORLD

By William H. Hudnut

**W**E HEAR a lot these days about the U.S.-Soviet arms race and the threat which ever-improving Soviet nuclear weapons poses to American and allied military forces and civilian targets. We also follow the slow journey, now 15 years old, of superpower negotiations to control this competition. But, there is another nuclear arms race—a silent one—that involves the spread of nuclear weapons around the world. In time, this silent arms race could pose as serious a threat to American security as the expanding Soviet nuclear arsenal.

Nuclear proliferation threatens to gain increased momentum through the remainder of the decade. Many of the technological barriers to the development and production of nuclear weapons have been eroded; the knowledge of how to make these weapons is becoming available around the world. The danger is that these weapons could come into the hands of states that are deeply involved in regional crises or conflicts, or, even worse, into the hands of terrorist organizations. Consider the following:

- Libya's Col. Qaddafi has declared his support for radical states and the use of violence to oppose the policies of the United States. What would he do if he had a nuclear weapon?
- The Ayatollah Khomeini wants to wage a "holy war" against "decadent

*William H. Hudnut III, the mayor of Indianapolis, is a past president of the National League of American Cities and a member of the board of trustees for the Roosevelt Center of American Policy Studies.*

*As more nations acquire the knowledge needed to build nuclear weapons, a crucial problem becomes evident. How do we keep the bomb out of the hands of radicals?*

Western imperialism." If the Shah had developed nuclear weapons, who would have them now?

- India and Pakistan have gone to war three times since 1948; Israel and the Arab countries four times. What if they all had nuclear weapons and war began to escalate again?
- Remember the terrorists' car bomb that killed our Marines in Beirut? What if the bomb had been nuclear—and detonated in Washington, D.C.?

The spread of nuclear weapons, especially to radical or unstable regimes, or to fanatical, violent groups, threatens to make the whole world a much less safe place in which to live.

Who's got the bomb now? There are five full-fledged members of the nuclear club: the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China. These Big Five all have impressive and visible arsenals. But there are other tiers of the nuclear club that are more ambiguous. India set off a "peaceful nuclear explosion" in 1974, and most experts think it could build a small arsenal of weapons within months, if it has not already done so.

Despite its vehement claims to the contrary, Israel is widely thought to have a "bomb in the basement"—nuclear weapons components that could be assembled in a matter of

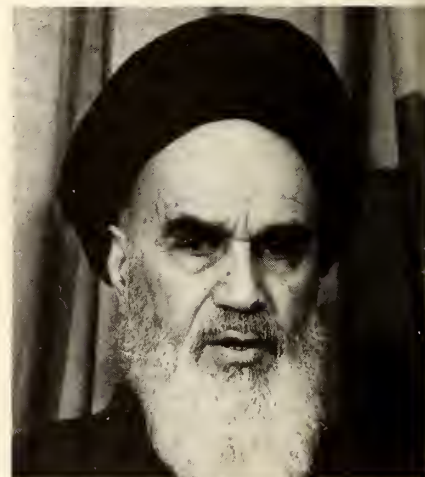
hours to produce a number of bombs. Finally, there is considerable speculation regarding South Africa's nuclear capabilities, since the South Africans have the technology, the uranium and the motivation to produce nuclear weapons.

Other countries, though less advanced in their efforts toward potential weapons production, are also known to have serious nuclear ambitions. Pakistan, Taiwan and South Korea are thought to have made considerable progress. Iraq was making excellent progress prior to the assassination of its chief nuclear scientist and Israel's attack on its principal nuclear reactor.

Argentina and Brazil both have the technical expertise to make eventual weapons production a possibility, but the return to democracy in both countries, as well as their terrible financial problems, has lessened their nuclear incentives considerably. Fortunately,

**SUPPOSE**

**AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI  
IRAN**







Libya has been repeatedly rebuffed in its efforts to purchase a nuclear weapon, and it lacks the technical infrastructure to produce one by itself.

Since the end of World War II when the United States stopped sharing its nuclear secrets with its allies, efforts have been made to restrict the spread of nuclear weapons and technology. Thus far, they have been reasonably successful, especially when you consider that some experts had predicted that 20 or more countries would have nuclear weapons by the 1970s. Unfortunately, holding the line looks like it

will be more and more difficult in the future.

Here are some of the arrangements that exist to try to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons:

- **The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.** Originally negotiated between the United States and the Soviet Union, the NPT was opened for signature in 1968. Since then, some 127 of the world's 170 nation-states have signed the treaty, which proscribes them from building or selling nuclear weapons, and provides for the international inspection of their peace-

ful nuclear facilities. Unfortunately, several countries, including two members of the nuclear club and those seeking to join it, such as China, France, India, Argentina and Israel, have refused to sign the NPT.

- **The International Atomic Energy Agency.** This United Nations' organization establishes safeguards on the peaceful use of nuclear fuels and facilities and conducts on-site inspections to ensure that its safeguards are being properly implemented. However, the IAEA has no real enforcement powers, and also seeks to encourage the use of civilian nuclear power and thus the spread of nuclear technology.

- **The London Nuclear Suppliers Group.** This group of Western suppliers of nuclear power plants and technology is promoting a stringent set of rules for the export of nuclear equipment to countries which don't have the bomb. However, commercial temptations and competition for markets make it difficult to ensure that these suppliers will always insist on proper safeguards before they provide a country with nuclear technology.

- **Security Guarantees.** Countries may seek nuclear weapons because of very real threats to their security. Sometimes this desire can be mitigated by a willingness on the part of stronger countries, such as the United States, to provide the country with a

*Continued on page 56*

## THESE MEN GET THE BOMB?

COL. M. QADDAFI  
LIBYA



YASSER ARAFAT  
PLO



AP/WIDE WORLD





**CITY AT SEA**—Billed as the largest warship ever built, the 75,700-ton *Enterprise* was the pride of the World War II fleet, carrying more than 4,000 men and 100 aircraft at speeds up to 35 knots. She was invincible—the only carrier to start and finish the war at sea.

## KNOWN AS THE BIG “E,” USS ENTERPRISE WON 20 BATTLE STARS, MAKING IT THE MOST DECORATED SHIP OF WORLD WAR II.

By Richard F. Newcomb

**T**HE ENTERPRISE launched her Scouting 6 squadron shortly after dawn to precede her to Ford Island. The big carrier was still eight hours west of Pearl Harbor. The date was December 7, 1941.

The Dauntless dive bombers of Scouting 6 touched down at Ford around 8:30 a.m. All but one. Ensign Manuel Gonzales' last words had been clearly heard on the carrier: "Please

*Richard F. Newcomb, a free-lance writer and WWII veteran, has authored three books on World War II in the Pacific theater.*

don't shoot! Don't shoot! This is an American plane!" And then a postscript, apparently to his gunner, riding backwards in the seat behind him: "We're on fire. Bail out!"

The *Enterprise* was at war, and so was America, and the carrier had paid her first lives in defense of the nation.

Vice Admiral William F. Halsey, Commander, Aircraft Battle Force, was finishing his second cup of coffee in *Enterprise's* flag quarters when the word reached him from the radio room: AIR RAID PEARL HARBOR. THIS IS NO DRILL. Within minutes the air was full of radio traffic that left no doubt; this indeed was no drill. Halsey hurried to the bridge and watched the signal flags snap out from the yardarm: PREPARE FOR BATTLE.

The *Enterprise* was ready, and so,

by good fortune, were two carriers in the Pacific, the *Lexington* and the *Saratoga*. Before the day was out, the American battleships were finished—four sunk, four others badly damaged. Only the aircraft carriers were spared, and the age of air power had been born.

Before the first day was over, *Enterprise* recovered her bombing and torpedo squadrons at sea; their all-day search for the enemy had found no targets. Her Wildcat fighters, out of gas and desperate, tried to land around 9 p.m. at Ford Island, lights on. Every gun in Pearl Harbor opened fire and Fighting 6 lost three pilots killed, four Wildcats destroyed. Not an encouraging opening.

At dusk on the 8th, the *Enterprise* crept warily into Pearl Harbor and the work parties went into action. In a miraculous eight hours the giant carrier took on a full load of ammunition, fuel and food and by 4 a.m. the Big E was dropping down the channel, on her way to sea and her first war patrol.

The *Lexington* was somewhere at sea south of Hawaii, the *Saratoga* was in harbor at San Diego, four days away. For the next year, all through



the crucial months of 1942, only these carriers and a few more would stand as a shield between the enemy and the west coast of the United States. The Big E was there all the way—sometimes, for short, scary days or weeks she was the *only* American carrier in action against the enemy—and when the year was out she had become a legend in the fleet.

Three days after Pearl Harbor, on December 10, the Enterprise drew her first enemy blood; her planes sank the submarine I-170 off the Hawaiian coast. This was the first good news for the Navy, never mind that the very same day Japanese planes were smashing Britain's premier fighting ships, the Prince of Wales and the Repulse, off Malaya.

**E**ARLY in January the Big E's sister ship, Yorktown, arrived from the Atlantic and together with Enterprise delivered Marine reinforcements to Samoa. Then the two carriers teamed up to raid the Gilbert and Marshall Islands on the way back to Pearl. Only weeks later the Enterprise was far to the west in the Pacific, her planes raiding Wake Island late in February, and Marcus Island in the first week of March.

Flea bites to the Japanese? Yes, but the bites worried the enemy because he learned that America was still alive, and he knew very well what Yamamoto had said: If Japan did not win in 1942, the United States would overwhelm her in the coming years. When Enterprise got back to Pearl Harbor, Halsey was awarded the DSM. The admiral told the Big E's crew, "Men, this medal belongs to you. I am so damned proud of you I could cry." They cheered him for five minutes.

On April 8, Enterprise sailed out again, with cruisers, destroyers and another carrier, the brand new Hornet, only six months in commission, and out of sight of land Halsey broke out the signal flags: "THIS FORCE IS BOUND FOR TOKYO." It was the Doolittle raid—16 of the Army's B-52 Mitchell medium bombers packed on the Hornet's flight deck. Could they launch at sea, from a flight deck only 800 feet long? They did, every one of them, on the morning of April 18 from a spot at sea 650 miles east of Tokyo. Radio Tokyo went off the air that day in mid-sentence at 2 p.m., and the rest

**CRASH-LANDING**—A lame F6F Hellcat crunches into the Enterprise flight deck after a combat sortie.



**BATTLE OF THE SOLOMONS**—A bomb explodes on The Big "E" flight deck during 1942 action in the Pacific.

is history. America had a psychological victory it badly needed; Bataan had just fallen to the Japanese.

There was no time to tarry. The Big E turned back for Pearl at high speed, but on April 30 was on the way out again. Trouble was brewing in the Coral Sea, in the southwest Pacific near New Guinea and Australia. From May 4-8, the Yorktown and Lexington took on a Japanese carrier force in a historic battle—the first naval engagement in history in which the opposing ships never saw each other. Yorktown scored first and radioed "Scratch one flattop." Her planes had gotten the light carrier Shoho, but there was a price to pay. Two torpedoes got the Lexington, and soon the old lady (commissioned 1927) was

aflame and sinking, a crippling loss to America. And Yorktown, damaged, began limping toward Pearl Harbor. Enterprise missed the battle by 24 hours; only she and the Hornet were intact now in the Pacific. Unlucky Saratoga had caught another Japanese torpedo in January near Hawaii and was in Bremerton Navy Yard for more repairs.

The next signal to Enterprise and Hornet came on May 17: "EXPEDITE RETURN" to Pearl. Some-

thing was up. It certainly was—Midway, the most crucial sea battle of the war. American intelligence had cracked the Japanese codes even before Pearl Harbor, and now reaped a rich reward. Nimitz and his staff read the enemy radio intercepts and finally Nimitz put his finger on a tiny island in mid-Pacific, Midway. The biggest Japanese fleet ever assembled was heading for Midway. And only two American carriers seaworthy.

Enterprise reached Pearl on one day, sailed the next, this time with Raymond Ames Spruance on the bridge. Halsey, exhausted, had been put in the hospital by a bad case of shingles. Just before Big E sailed, Nimitz came aboard and hung the DFC on three of her top airmen: Lt. Commander C. Wade McClusky, Lt. Roger W. Mehle, and Lt. Jimmy Daniels. In time, those names, and the

*Continued on page 50*

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# Great American



NEW YORK—A family of sand builders plays in the sun on an East Hampton Beach.



CALIFORNIA—Brightly

## By Gary Turbak

**W**HEN poet John Masefield said "I must down to the seas again," he stroked a chord in all of us. The seashore, the beach, has always had a magnetic hold on mankind.

Perhaps, it is because life began in the sea. Or because many of our ancestors once stood on the prow of an immigrant ship and first glimpsed America as a beckoning beach. Whatever the reason, the lure is strong.

So strong, in fact, that pilgrimages to the beach rival baseball as a national pastime. On any Sunday, beaches from Maine to southern

California flow with the living tide of beach-loving Americans.

Beaches have the unique capacity to be all things to all people. A surfer can test his mettle against the waves. In the malleable sand, children of all ages build visions of tomorrow. Starry-eyed lovers stroll hand in hand. Swimmers, cleansed and refreshed, bob in the water. Rhythmic joggers punch footholds in the sand. And at places like Coney Island and Atlantic City, beach goers can combine the best of nature with the frivolity of man.

Beaches have a special beauty, too. The deep blue of the ocean licks at alabaster sand. From distant shores come the twisted forms of gnarled, sun-bleached driftwood. At dusk, light from the setting sun rebounds from the water and bathes the beach in an amber glow of peace.

Beaches also can be citadels of power. At midnight on a Pacific beach, the tide thunders in and a white line of breakers pierces the darkness. Who

could stand there and not feel dwarfed.

But not all beaches rest beside oceans. In every part of the nation lie inland waters with untallied miles of sandy shoreline. To these places flock multitudes of Americans seeking a respite from the heat and the dulling sameness of man-made surroundings. Sand between the toes feels as great in Montana as in Malibu.

Mostly, beaches mean rejuvenation—of mind and body. What a swim does for tired muscles, shoreside contemplation does for the mind. You'll leave renewed . . . and vowing that you, too, must soon go down to the sea again. □

*Gary Turbak, a free-lance journalist, writes articles on U.S. travel for this and other leading magazines.*

**Planning a Trip?**  
Remember to use your  
American Legion  
Family Benefit Plan



# BEACHES



Colored sails snap in a warm Malibu breeze that propels sailsurfers through the waves.

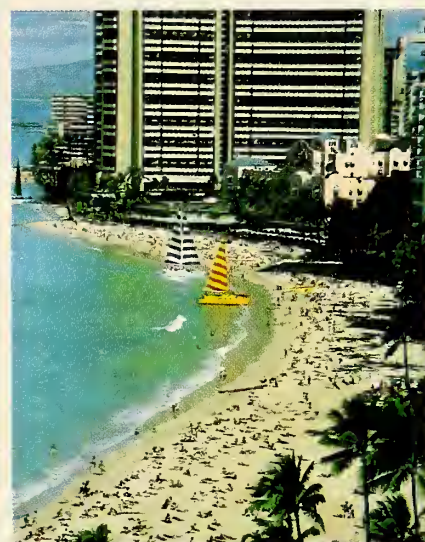


MONTANA—Galloping trail riders enjoy splashing along the shore of Holland Lake in the midst of thick forests and lofty mountains of the high country.



MAINE DIVISION OF TOURISM

MAINE—A Portland lighthouse stands in silent vigil over a craggy beach.



HAWAII VISITORS BUREAU

HAWAII—Palm trees and hotels line one of the world's most popular beaches.



FLORIDA DEPT. OF COMMERCE

FLORIDA—Strollers share the peacefulness of usually busy Clearwater beach.



# The "Golden Years" Are Getting **B**etter

**FOR MANY,  
GROWING OLD IN  
AMERICA TODAY  
MEANS BETTER  
HEALTH, LONGER  
LIFE AND MORE  
MONEY THAN  
EVER BEFORE.**

**By John H. Adams**

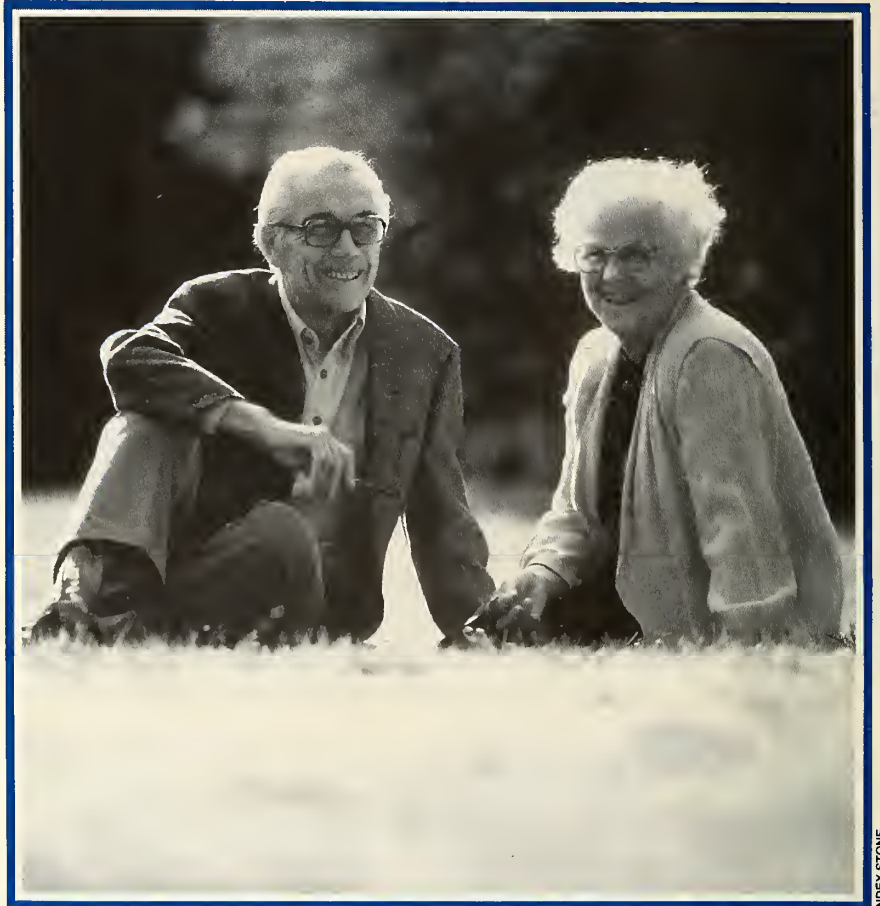
**I**T'S SOMETHING of a paradox. A baby boom seems to be getting under way again—ask harried school boards in fast-growth areas—yet the number of Americans 65 and older is increasing faster than ever.

And the nation's median age (half of us older, half younger) has crept past the once-significant threshold of 30 years to 31. It was 26 when World War II began. So the white-capped American eagle is an even more appropriate symbol for this country than it was in the past.

The "geriatrification" of the nation is a concept that can be overdone, of course. Regarding people, the United States still is a vibrant, growing giant. Its 239 million population of 1985 will, in the next 15 years, rise another 29 million, to 268 million, if the mid point ("middle series") of Census Bureau projections are borne out. The increase would be larger if the "highest series" proved more accurate, as has happened many times in the past.

It also is true that American society

*John H. Adams is a Washington-based journalist who has been covering national affairs since 1940.*



INDEX STONE

remains heavily in favor of youth; some would say obsessed. But the numbers and clout of the older Americans are obviously on the rise.

No change is in sight in this basic and vitally important population trend. Major signals—advances in medical technology, improved nutrition, minimum-care levels for all seeking aid in their extended old age—point to a steadily larger group of elderly and very elderly.

The charts on the next page tell some of the significant parts of the story.

*Numbers: Up.* The changing age mix that is making a growing force of people over 65 will continue through 2000 and far beyond if Census Bureau projections pan out.

The rise in oldsters is certain; they will constitute 13 percent of the nation by 2000, barring any medical or environmental disaster.

What is less certain is the increase in children and youths. Census "middle series" guesses show an actual decline of nearly 1 million children (5 percent) in the under-5 group between now and 2000, and a 4-million (14 percent) decline in the 18-24 group. But unpredictable events, such as depression or war, can knock age-group "guesstimates" into a cocked hat. That happened in the 1940s and 1950s.

A striking feature of today's population trends is the oncoming "next wave" of oldsters—those now 45 to 64 years old. This middle-age group will



grow faster than all the rest of the nation between now and 2000, increasing by a projected 16 million (36 percent) versus 413,000 (less than 1 percent) in the under-25s; 6.4 million (9 percent) in the 25-44s; and 5.7 million (20 percent) in the 65 and older ranks.

In the first part of the next century, as today's mid-agers move into the 65 and older group, that elderly cohort will rise to an estimated 64 million, constituting one American in every five, by 2030. And an incredible number, by past human history, will be reaching very aged status. Nearly one American in 10 will be 75 and older by 2030.

**T**his graying of America has been going on since colonial days, as medical science lengthened life spans here and in most of the world. But the process seems to be speeding up in the United States. From 1820 to 1920, our median age rose on the average of one year every 11.6 years. From 1920 to 1983 the median age rose by one year every 11.2 years. So we're getting older faster—at least in the population statistics.

**Incomes: Up.** Another statistical aspect of the elderly's affairs is the perceived affluence of those 65 and over as a group. Obviously many elderly Americans live at or near the poverty level, no matter how it is measured. Yet there seems to be little question that today's retirees are far better off, as a group, than those of earlier decades. From that point on, however, arguments flare.

The federal government's official view is summed up in the Council of Economic Advisers 1985 Report to the President, as follows:

"Thirty years ago the elderly were a relatively disadvantaged group in the population. That is no longer the case. The median real income of the elderly has more than doubled since 1950, and the income of the elderly has increased faster over the past two decades than the income of the non-elderly population. Today, elderly and non-elderly families have about equal levels of income per capita. Poverty rates among the elderly have declined so dramatically that in 1983 poverty rates for the elderly were lower than poverty rates for the rest of the population.

"These encouraging statistics do not tell the whole story. The elderly are not a homogeneous group. Those with spouses have relatively high levels of family income, especially when leisure opportunities, lower tax rates for the

*Continued on page 61*



## LIVING LONGER

YEARS OF LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH (avg for men and women)			LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 65	
			Men	Women
1920	54.1	1959-61	13	15.9
1940	62.9	1969-71	13	16.9
1960	69.7	1975	13.8	18.2
1980	73.7	1980	14.2	18.5
1983 (latest)	74.7	1981 (latest)	14.4	18.8

Source: U.S. National Center for Health Statistics

ILLUSTRATED BY ED SAKU



## FEWER YOUNGSTERS, MORE OLDSTERS

	UNDER 25 YEARS OLD		25-64		65 And Older	
	mil	% of Americans	mil	% of Americans	mil	% of Americans
1960	81	45%	83	46%	17	9%
1980	94	42%	108	47%	26	11%
1985	92	40%	119	49%	29	12%
2000	92	34%	141	53%	35	13%

Source: Basic data U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 projections are "middle series" of estimates.



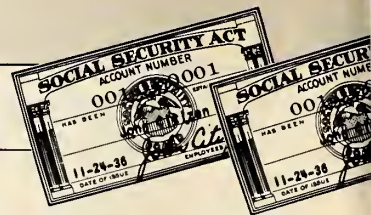
## MORE MONEY TO SPEND

AVERAGE INCOME OF FAMILY HEADS 65 AND OLDER		% OF ELDERLY FAMILIES WITH INCOMES BELOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POVERTY LEVEL	
1950	\$11,780	1960	27%
1960	\$14,740	1970	16%
1970	\$18,260	1980	9%
1980	\$20,370	1983	9%
1983	\$21,420		

\*To show "real income" (buying power of the dollar amounts) in each measured year.  
Source: Council of Economic Advisers 1985 Report to the President.



# 50 YEARS OF SOCIAL SECURITY



## HOW IT BEGAN

**By Quentin and Emmy Lou Schenk**

**B**EFORE the Great Depression, most Americans assumed that any individual could avoid falling into poverty. All it took was hard work, honesty and thrift. Then, almost overnight, traditional values failed. A third of the nation's workers were jobless and destitute through economic circumstances that were totally beyond their control.

The recognition that poverty could strike so casually, so universally and so without warning, was terrifying. Something had to be done. People wanted not merely to end the Depression, they wanted assurance that such a disaster might never again occur.

Enter the Townsend Plan. Simplistic, said some. Crackpot, said others. Even so, Dr. Francis Townsend had no difficulty setting up thousands of clubs to push his pension program for the elderly. According to his plan, each person 65 and older would receive a flat grant of \$200 a month from the federal government, this sum to be financed through a nationwide sales tax.

The Townsend Plan's popularity helped President Roosevelt decide that the political climate was ripe for a plan of his own; however, he wanted much more than pensions for the elderly. In June 1934, Roosevelt promised legislation that would provide a "safeguard against the misfortunes that cannot be wholly eliminated in this man-made world of ours." Two months later he set up the Committee

*Quentin and Emmy Lou Schenk, have collaborated on many books and articles on social issues.*



**SAFETY NET—FDR signs legislation making the Social Security Act law in 1935.**

on Economic Security (CES) and charged its 24-members to come up with a unified system of legislation that would fulfill that promise.

The safeguards were to include programs for national health insurance, unemployment compensation, maternal and child aid, vocational rehabilitation, help for farmers, assistance for the disabled and others. Despite the enormity of the task, the CES was to have legislation ready within six months.

Rejecting the Townsend Plan, the CES opted for a federal pension program to be funded by taxing both employer and employee. National health insurance was considered but briefly. As to unemployment insurance and workman's compensation, federal funds would be appropriated to assist the states in administration, but not to pay actual claims made by the workers. The programs for old-age assistance, for the blind, for crippled children and for aid to dependent children also were left to the states to administer, but would be funded on the basis of matching grants. Thus, in the bill Roosevelt presented to Congress Jan.

15, 1935, many programs were mandated by the federal government, but old-age insurance was the only federal program.

During the three months of hearings that followed, businesses offered little opposition. The trend toward an aging population was already established in the 1930s, and business was top-heavy with older workers, many in their 70s or 80s. The pension plan would provide an acceptable way to replace them with younger workers.

When Townsend appeared before the congressional hearings, front page coverage made it seem that the only real issue was the choice between the Townsend Plan and compulsory insurance. Other features were forgotten or ignored. This was what Roosevelt had hoped would happen, the reason he had insisted on an omnibus bill rather than one broken down into its component parts.

When the congressional hearings finished, the House Ways and Means Committee rewrote the Economic Security Bill, changing its name to the Social Security Bill. On April 11, the House passed the bill 371 to 33.

The Senate added several amendments, then, on June 19, passed the bill 77 to 6. A conference committee immediately began reconciling the two versions. The House accepted the conference report on Aug. 8, the Senate on Aug. 9. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act on Aug. 14, 1935.

Roosevelt rejoiced in his victory. "It was politics all the way through," he said. "We put those payroll deductions there so as to give contributors a legal, moral and political right to collect their pensions and unemployment benefits. With those taxes in there, no damn politician can ever scrap my social security program."

His supposition has proved correct for the past half-century. □





# A CONTRACT BETWEEN GENERATIONS

By Louis M. Kohlmeier

**I**N THEIR 1985 report to Congress, Social Security trustees predict "timely payment of (pension) benefits well into the next century."

But President Reagan has said that, while he never would "pull the rug out" from under Americans now receiving Social Security benefits, "There is a possibility—well, a probability—that many people, young people now paying in, will never be able to receive as much as they're paying." Paul G. Kirk, chairman of the Democratic National Committee has said Congress should consider limiting or eliminating benefits of retirees "who don't really need them."

Social Security benefits have been paid for nearly a half-century, and there is no reason to worry that they will not be paid in the foreseeable future. But the benefits have begun to shrink, and that's the real reason for bipartisan worry in Washington.

Social Security is Washington's biggest promise to the American people. Some 36 million retired or disabled Americans last year received benefit checks totaling \$180 billion. Some 119 million working-age Americans and their employers paid payroll taxes adding up to \$186 billion.

Social Security historically has been a growing promise of larger benefits, earlier retirement and better medical care. Congress on a regular basis, has expressed with benefit improvements its sense of social responsibility toward older Americans and their survivors, and toward the disabled.

*Louis M. Kohlmeier Jr., a Washington-based writer, earned the 1965 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting.*

Now the promise has stopped growing. In 1983 Congress changed the course of history by reducing some benefits, taxing others and decreeing later retirement in the future. Congress has not lost its sense of social responsibility. It's just that fiscal responsibility has taken over.

President Roosevelt was right when he insisted that an enduring Social Security program required a unique fiscal scheme. The program has endured partly because Social Security payroll taxes fund Social Security benefits exclusively. But the scheme could not ensure that tax income forever would cover benefit outgo.

As Congress improved benefits, it raised taxes. In the 1930s, workers and employers each paid 1 percent of the first \$3,000 annual earnings. By 1985 the tax rate has soared to 5.7 percent of \$39,600. The trust funds through the 1960s were solvent, as solvency is defined in Washington.

Social Security is a pay-as-you-go program. It remained solvent so long

as the economy remained stable. Insolvency reared its head in the 1970s. As inflation grew, benefits automatically increased and trust fund outgo exceeded income. When Congress tried to reverse the trend in 1977, President Carter thought Social Security solvent "for the next 50 years." But then double-digit inflation triggered still bigger benefits. Then, a deep recession and high unemployment cut into trust fund income. Solvency was threatened again, and President Reagan formed his Social Security "reform" commission.

Now the 1983 law, plus economic recovery, have restored solvency. Income of the trust funds exceeded outgo in 1984 by more than \$6 billion.

Social Security will survive the economic troubles. Congress already has legislated payroll tax increases past the year 2000. Further benefit reductions will hinge on the economy's future. If the economic problems are resolved, Social Security faces demographic troubles in the next century.

America is aging. Life expectancy of males now is nearly 72 years and females, 79 years. In 2000 it is projected at 75 years for males and 83 for females. The projections mean the ratio of workers to retirees will decline sharply. In 1980 there were five people of working age for every person 65 or over. By 2030 the ratio will be only 2.5 workers for each retiree. Future workers thus will have to pay higher taxes. No one knows whether future generations of workers will be willing or able to support older Americans and their survivors, the disabled, the infirm and the poor.

But Social Security always has been a social contract between generations. Workers have paid taxes in the belief that they someday will collect benefits, and if that belief holds then Social Security may endure indefinitely. □

**ACT OF FAITH—Social Security is based on a "contract between generations," whereby those who are healthy and employed contribute to the pensions of those no longer in the workforce.**



UPI/ETMANN



# Exposing The Big Lie of Moral Equivalence

By John K. Andrews Jr.

**A**mericans are a forgiving and forgetful people when it comes to moral distinctions between our system and the Soviet Union's.

Review the past five years: The Soviet Union brutally invades neighboring Afghanistan, but the ugly fact is soon obscured by media sophistries about U.S. actions in Vietnam and Grenada. The KGB masterminds a plot to kill the pope; this memory, too, fades quickly. Soviet puppets declare martial law in Poland to crush the Solidarity movement; Americans murmur but do not remember for long.

Two hundred sixty-nine lives are lost when Russian MiGs shoot a Korean commercial airliner out of the sky, and some Americans blame South Korea. Andrei Sakharov is starved and drugged, his house made a virtual extension of the gulag; public attention is briefly roused in the West, then turns elsewhere.

Then an American officer, U.S. Army Maj. Arthur Nicholson, acting within his rights under international law, is gunned down in cold blood by a Soviet soldier. And there is not even an apology from Moscow. Will our memory be any longer this time? Will our ability to tell good from evil be any clearer than it was on all those other occasions? Will our instinct for survival, our ability to add up the evidence and recognize the menace of a psycho-

pathic, totalitarian empire when we see one, be sharpened at all by this latest warning from the Kremlin?

These are important questions at a time when U.S.-Soviet arms talks have resumed, an "affable" new boss sits in the Kremlin, defense cuts are trumpeted as the cure for the deficit, and millions have become persuaded that it's not aggressor nations but weapons themselves that cause wars.

Forty years ago this year, the West won a desperate struggle against the Nazi totalitarianism of Adolf Hitler, a

**"Why do we listen politely to those descriptions of Afghanistan as 'the Russians' Vietnam?'"**

man who told of his plans in a book the world refused to believe. Churchill called it "the unnecessary war." Now we confront another totalitarian power—one that is more dangerously armed than Nazi Germany or any other power in history. Lenin's slave state was established before Hitler's, and Lenin's design for putting the West to sleep and then swallowing it was in print long before *Mein Kampf*. Why do we so stubbornly refuse to see the parallels?

Why do we listen politely to those descriptions of Afghanistan as "the Russians' Vietnam," agonize that the Soviet-Cuban offensive in Central America may be our fault, discuss hopefully the prospects of reviving detente (which was a cynical Soviet con job the first time anyway)? Is it the 1930s all over again? Will there be another unnecessary war—or, given the western world's irrational nuclear-

phobia, an unnecessary surrender?

Part of the problem is America's short historical memory, sometimes measured literally in months. Other traits in our national character also seem to work against us. Americans are fair to a fault. We are determined to think the best of the other fellow. We are painfully earnest about acknowledging our own faults and reforming them.

These impulses are laudable and healthy; but they can become almost suicidal when mixed with a strong dose of 20th century secular religion—distrust of all moral and spiritual absolutes, utopian fantasies where the best becomes the enemy of the good, and selfish postponement of death at all costs. The result is our strange unwillingness to admit that "the evil empire" is exactly that, and our nagging worry that we might actually deserve the humiliation our enemies demand of us.

French author Jean-Francois Revel devotes an important new book to diagnosing this sickness. "The distinctive mark of our century," he writes in *How Democracies Perish*, "is the humility with which democratic civilization agrees to disappear and works to legitimize the victory of its mortal enemy." How unnatural, remarks Revel, "that the targeted civilization should not only judge that its defeat is justified, but also provide its partisans as well as its adversaries ample reason to regard all forms of self-defense as immoral, or at best superfluous and useless, if not downright dangerous."

If you think he is exaggerating, listen closer to those who call Nicaragua and El Salvador "our" Lithuania and Latvia. Listen as a pop singer says that Russians and Americans want peace but can't get it from their warlike governments.

Yet the wheel turns. From a U.N. ambassador in the 1970s who could call

*Continued on page 59*



*John K. Andrews Jr., a former White House speech writer, is now a private consultant home-based in Colorado.*





Bob Lee

Bob Lee says: "It's hard for me to be modest with

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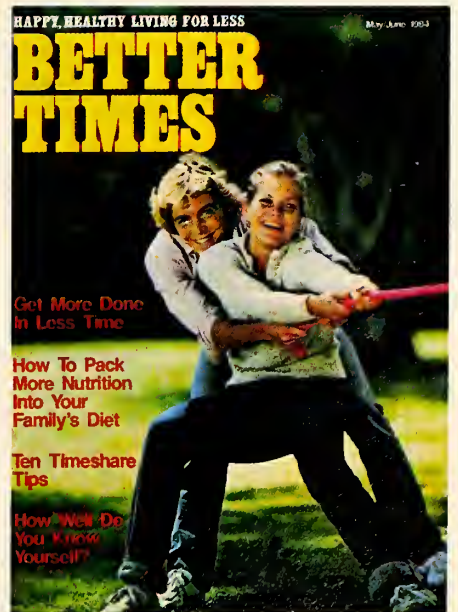
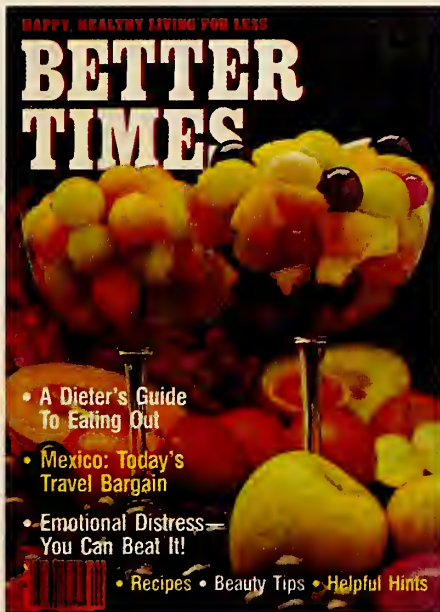
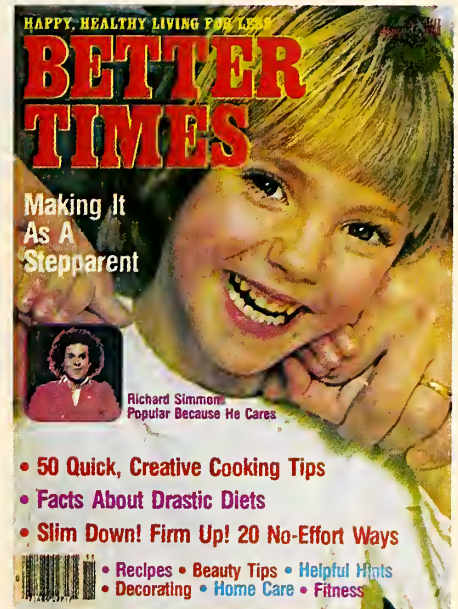
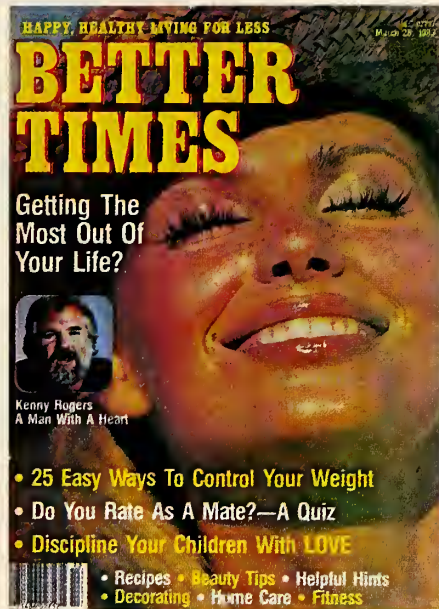
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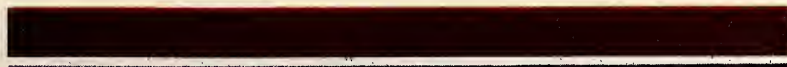
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# **IMPORTANT MESSAGE!**

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**H**ealth care legislation, H.R. 505, has passed the House and another bill addressing the medical needs of aging veterans, S. 876, has been approved by the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. The Senate and House bills contain several different provisions which may make it difficult to come to agreement on a single bill for final passage later this year.

H.R. 505 would clarify the VA authority to provide respite and hospice care for veterans suffering from long-term chronic illnesses, enabling them to receive some care at home. The bill also would allow certain veterans in nursing homes to receive outpatient care, and encourage the VA to transfer certain patients from VA-run nursing homes to non-VA homes. In addition, the VA could expand to 25 from 15 the number of Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Centers it operates.

The Senate bill would prevent the VA from allowing reductions in full-time health care employees below ceilings established by Congress. VA hospitals would be restricted to 700 beds to keep hospitals at a manageable size and allow more hospitals to be built. The VA would be required to keep statistics on hospital deaths resulting from heart surgery and kidney transplants. Another provision would permit the VA to contract for home health care services instead of hospital care for certain ailments. Thus, a veteran who suffered a stroke might be provided with someone to care for him, instead of having to enter a VA medical facility.

**I**mmigration reform legislation, S. 1200, has been introduced this year by Senator Alan K. Simpson. As with past legislation, S. 1200 would provide stiff civil penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens. For verification of work eligibility status, the new measure would require employers to check standard identification documents of all job applicants. The bill also calls for the establishment of a commission appointed by the President to determine whether employer sanctions and verification have stemmed the flow of illegal aliens into the country. If the commission found employer sanctions and verification to be working, amnesty would be undertaken to legalize the status of many illegals already in the country.

The American Legion has testified in support of employer sanctions, but called upon Congress to strengthen the verification provisions by using a tamper-proof identification system. Once again, this year the Legion has expressed its adamant opposition to amnesty in any form, or for any reason.

**T**ax reform has become a matter of critical interest to The American Legion since last fall when the Department of Treasury released its plan to overhaul the nation's tax laws. Under the Treasury plan, veterans disability compensation would be taxable. In May when the President unveiled his tax plan, the proposal to

tax veterans compensation had been dropped. This came as good news in the wake of a major Legion campaign to persuade the administration that veterans compensation should remain tax free.

Apart from the victory on veterans compensation, there is one feature of the tax plan which is less encouraging to the Legion. The plan would allow the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (see Veterans Deserve Good Jobs, page 38) to expire. The program permits employers to deduct a part of the income earned by economically disadvantaged veterans and others employed under the program. Rather than eliminating the program, the Legion is supporting legislation (H.R. 983 and S. 1250) to extend it for five years.

Another provision the Legion is seeking to have added to any tax reform proposal is one which would allow both itemizing and non-itemizing taxpayers to claim tax deductions for the miles driven in private vehicles during volunteer activities. Currently, only itemizing taxpayers are permitted the deduction.

**P**resident Reagan received the following wire from National Commander Clarence M. Bacon: "On behalf of the 2.7 million members of The American Legion, we recognize the challenges and frustrations with which you are faced in your efforts to achieve a safe release of the hostages from the TWA plane. Be assured that you have the support, as well as the prayers, of all of us in The American Legion. "We recognize that terrorism is a cancer on the world that must be eliminated. We share your deep concern for the safe release of all those hostages and you have our continued support in whatever actions you determine necessary."

**A**ccording to the law, federal contractors with contracts valued at \$10,000 or more are supposed to list job openings with the employment service and consider available qualified veterans before other job applicants. Unfortunately, things haven't worked out the way Congress intended, and the law has never been adequately enforced, creating a climate in which contractors have felt free to ignore their obligations. In some cases the employment service also has been a problem. A case in point comes from a House Veterans Affairs subcommittee hearing held in California. A witness testified that local job offices were holding federal contract job listings for veteran applicants for only two hours before opening up these job opportunities to all other job seekers.

The American Legion has testified before the House's Education, Training and Employment subcommittee, pointing out that the affirmative action tools available to other groups are more effective in placing people in jobs than those of the veterans and that affirmative action for veterans is meaningless. As a solution, the Legion calls for equalizing affirmative action enforcement tools for all groups.



# THE VETERANS' ADVOCATE ON CAPITOL HILL

*Whether he's testifying before Congress or conferring with our nation's leaders, Cmdr. Bacon is working on behalf of all of America's veterans.*



**N**O SOONER had Clarence M. Bacon taken command of the nation's largest veterans organization, than he was at full stride heading for the nation's capital on one of the many Washington, D.C., trips he would make throughout the year.

In rapid-fire succession he testified on Capitol Hill before House and Senate committees, met with cabinet and military leaders, and spoke face to face with members of Congress about Legion positions on a range of issues.

During his stays in Washington, Bacon was briefed on national security, foreign relations and veterans' programs by cabinet secretaries and high-ranking staff members at the Department of Defense, Department of State and Veterans Administration.

As National Commander, Bacon provided the leadership that set the tone for Legion legislative activities on Capitol Hill. These activities helped accomplish Legion-mandated programs, including congressional approval of the MX missile and appropriation of funds to support the freedom-fighting Contras.

Bacon also spearheaded a nation-

wide campaign against a growing threat to eliminate or reduce veterans' benefits and medical programs. Through a special brochure mailed to each congressman and state legislator, Bacon succeeded in focusing attention on the increasing ranks of America's aging veterans. That attention emphasized the need to ensure that all

veterans continue to receive medical care and other benefits earned through service to their country.

Throughout a year-long schedule of rigorous traveling, extensive planning and forceful leadership, the National Commander of The American Legion continues to be an effective veterans' advocate on Capitol Hill. □



**FOREIGN POLICY**—Briefings from officials such as Secretary of State George P. Shultz contributed to Bacon's successful visits to Europe and Central and South America.





**TESTIMONY**—With Rep. Steny H. Hoyer at his side, Bacon voices Legion priorities to the House Veterans Affairs Committee.



**NATION'S LEADER**—The National Commander introduces President and Mrs. Reagan at the "Salute to Heroes" inaugural ball, which The American Legion helped to host.



**STRONG DEFENSE**—Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr., briefs Bacon on the Army's overall military readiness to meet contemporary and future global challenges.



**SENATE APPEARANCE**—After testimony to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, the National Commander discusses current veterans benefit and employment issues with Sen. Paul Sarbanes.



**TWIN ADVOCATES**—A staunch fighter for veterans rights, House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery talks strategy with the Legion's leader.



# AMERICA'S VETERANS DESERVE GOOD JOBS

By Donald E. Shasteen

**A** DISABLED Air Force veteran recently lost his job of 13 years. Despondent, he turned to his Job Service office. A week later, a federal contractor requested several men for a five-day job and the Job Service referred the veteran to the job site. He was offered a job at \$4 per hour. Within two hours, he was the leader of the new crew but, better than that, at the end of the day, he was offered permanent employment at \$8 per hour.

Sometimes, it's not easy to find the veteran a job. For example, an army veteran went to his local Job Service office (located in each state, usually under the state department of employment), every day for a year looking for work. Occasionally, he would get hired for some day-work, but never got a real job offer. He finally left his home state of Oklahoma and went to Texas, but before long he was back at the Job Service in Oklahoma. He was now willing to enter group counseling and, even though he had no resources, through his group he was able to get a clean shirt, a haircut and a shave. He was hired at his next job interview and he's now training to be a repairman for a cash register company. Fortunately, neither the veteran representative at the Job Service nor the veteran gave up.

America's veterans deserve jobs—productive, self-fulfilling, family supporting jobs. Our task at the Department of Labor is to provide whatever assistance it takes to get them these jobs.

This year, the Veterans' Employ-

ment and Training Service (VETS) initiated three efforts to ensure that our nation's veterans are receiving all possible services that we can deliver. First, VETS began a nationwide project to increase the number of jobs listed with the Job Service under the Federal Contractor Job Listing program. In March, the State of Alabama began using the *Commerce Business Daily* computer service to report federal contract awards, develop a list of contracts awarded within each state,

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***"Getting recently separated veterans into the workforce as soon as possible is our primary goal."***

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and mail the information daily to the states. Personal follow-up by Job Service employees in this effort will increase veteran jobs with companies awarded federal contracts.

Second, VETS is strengthening its efforts to increase counseling services for out-of-work veterans by establishing closer working relationships and cooperative agreements with VA field counselors. Counseling resources are already in place, but there must be better coordination so that veterans can receive the maximum services.

Finally, we are working to help recently separated veterans make a smooth transition from the military to productive lives in the civilian labor force. Working with the Department of Defense and the VA, the project will establish a uniform system for orientation, briefing and pre-separation counseling for persons being separated from military service.

Getting recently separated veterans into the work force quickly is our primary goal. Monetary savings would obviously be achieved.

In the past two years, we improved the delivery of services to veterans, and are giving our veterans and our taxpayers "more bang for the buck."

We tightened our grant agreements with the states for the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) and the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) program, yet we're serving more veterans than ever. In fiscal year 1984, the total Job Service system, including our DVOPs and LVERs, provided help to three million veterans, placing nearly 500,000 of them in jobs. For the program year ending June 30, 1985, we increased placements to about 550,000. Next year, VETS will set a still higher goal of placements with approximately the same dollar resources.

The Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act (EVJTA), which the Labor Department and VA jointly administer, has done what it set out to do—place in permanent jobs more than 35,000 hard-core, long-term unemployed veterans. The EVJTA reimburses employers up to \$10,000 for each eligible Korean War or Vietnam-era veteran they have in an on-the-job training position.

But the program also has been a success in ways that are not documented. For example, through our outreach efforts on behalf of EVJTA, we have achieved a tremendous increase in employer awareness of the Job Service and its resource of highly-qualified veteran job candidates. Also, many veterans, eligible for EVJTA or not, have been placed in jobs by employers who were not in the EVJTA program.

The Job Service continues to be our most valuable partner in the process of informing employers about the advantages of hiring veterans under the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit program. That program is designed to encourage private corporations to hire Vietnam veterans, the handicapped and disadvantaged youth. The program accounted for 29,000 placements of economically disadvantaged Vietnam-era veterans in the past fiscal year.

We are excited about providing our nation's veterans with the employment assistance they need. That's the least we can do to repay our veterans for the sacrifices they made to keep America free and safe. □



*Donald E. Shasteen is the Department of Labor's assistant secretary for Veterans Employment and Training.*



## LEGION-COLUMBIA U. STUDY REVEALS EFFECTS OF COMBAT

By National Cmdr. Clarence M. Bacon

**A** LITTLE more than two years ago, The American Legion and Columbia University launched a study into the effects of service by American veterans during the Vietnam era. The long-awaited findings now are becoming available.

In the first report, released late last month, Drs. Jeanne and Steven Stellman, the project directors, revealed some significant post-service differences between Americans who experienced combat in Southeast Asia and those who served during the Vietnam era, but not in combat.

The study group consisted entirely of American Legion volunteers from six departments. These volunteers were selected from a list of 85,000 Legionnaires randomly chosen from those departments' membership rolls. Of the 12,500 members identified as Vietnam-era veterans, more than 6,800 responded to the call for the study. Of that group, approximately 40 percent saw duty in Southeast Asia.

With the combat and non-combat groups identified, the Stellmans and approximately 1,000 Legion volunteer researchers began to gather data and then analyze what they found. The focus of this initial report was on income, divorce rate, educational attainment and reported levels of general happiness and satisfaction.

It has been a time-consuming process. Here are some of the first findings:

- Within the total study group the various educational levels attained by veterans is *not* related to exposure to combat conditions.

- As with the general American population, veterans in the study group with higher educations earned more, whether combat veteran or not.

- But, when age and education are taken into account, exposure to intense combat has a major *independent* effect on family income. The Stellmans estimate that among men born in the years 1944-1949 (the age group which experienced the highest combat levels) the middle annual income level of com-

bat vets appears to be \$3,000-\$4,000 less than men of that age group who did not experience intense combat.

- Exposure to intense combat conditions was found to have an effect on marital status. Men who experienced intense combat have a divorce rate much higher than other vets who served in Southeast Asia under other conditions or who served elsewhere.

- Direct measures of general happiness and satisfaction and reports of general health are significantly worse for men who served under heavy combat conditions. The strongest differences were observed among men born in the years 1944-1949.

The Stellmans have concluded that the men born between the years 1944 and 1949 were the group with the largest percentage serving in Southeast Asia. This was also the group that experienced the most damaging conditions of war.

"Our analysis shows a clear and consistent adverse social effect of exposure to traumatic situations (combat) among members of the study population. Specifically, we find that as the mean level of traumatic combat experiences rises so does the divorce rate. Conversely, annual family income declines as do the reported levels of general happiness and satisfaction with increased levels of combat," the Stellmans said.

Because of this and other findings, the report noted: "It shows that it is necessary to differentiate *among* men who served in Southeast Asia on the basis of actual wartime experience in order to demonstrate some of the major effects of service."

This is the first of several study reports which will be released during the coming year. Other analyses will address attitudes and experiences involving VA medical care; Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; relations, if any, to exposure to Agent Orange; and family and reproductive health and well-being of the study group. □

*Legion News continued on page 46*



## VETERANS ADVISER

*Do you have questions concerning your veterans' benefits? The American Legion Magazine will answer as many as possible in this column. We regret that we are unable to provide a personal response to each query. Write to The American Legion Magazine, Veterans Adviser Editor, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.*

**Q.** I am a woman veteran with four years of service during the Korean War. Am I entitled to medical care from the VA?

**A.** Yes, if you have an illness or injury incurred in military service, you are entitled to treatment or hospitalization. Eligibility for non-service-connected treatment is based on availability of space and financial need, except for veterans over 65.

**Q.** I have been approved to attend college under the VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling Program. Does the VA pay for my tuition and books?

**A.** Yes. The VA pays the college directly for the cost of tuition, fees and books for a disabled veteran who is pursuing a vocational rehabilitation program.

**Q.** May a veteran who receives a monthly check for service-connected disabilities be granted an additional allowance for dependents?

**A.** Veterans whose service-connected disabilities are rated at 30 percent or more are entitled to an additional allowance for dependents.

**Q.** How long does a veteran have to use VA education benefits under the old GI Bill?

**A.** Ten years from the date of separation from active duty or until Dec. 31, 1989, whichever comes first.



From battle monuments honoring the nation's heroes, to American flags standing in silent vigil, Legionnaires paid Memorial Day tributes to "the other Legion that did not return."

**"T**he fallen are often forgotten, and those who return are frequently ignored. Today, however, we acknowledge all debts to these men and women."

This Memorial Day homage was written by a 17-year-old high school senior in Rockingham, N.C., as part of a special tribute to area veterans. The full text was inscribed on a bronze plaque and attached to a marble monument erected



on the lawn of the Richmond County Courthouse. Legionnaire James B. Standridge Jr., Post 49, was chairman of the Richmond County Veterans Council that hosted the event. He said the statue—a bust of a local soldier from World War II—honors past, present and future local veterans.

Legionnaires at Gardner Post 129, Gardner, Mass., celebrated their Memorial Day in similar fashion by erecting a special black granite monument dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans. Local citizens helped to pay for the monument.

Al Sirat Grotto Post 392, Cleveland, Ohio, continued a decade-long tradition of conducting Memorial Day serv-



**LIBERTY FACELIFT**—Through card parties, donation cans in local businesses and other fund-raising projects, Leonard Hughes, Buddy Pockett and members of Post 49, Fair Haven, Vt., joined forces in a labor of love to raise \$1,000 for the Statue of Liberty restoration fund.

ices at the Lakeview Cemetery. While the event drew few participants 10 years ago, this year more than 200 persons from 12 veterans' organizations attended.

Kenny Grafton helped raise \$12,000 to erect on Memorial Day a marble monument containing the names of county residents who gave their lives during World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam. Grafton, a member of Harford Post 39, Bel Air, Md., and chairman of the War Memorial committee of Legionnaires and VFW members, coordinated county-wide efforts to raise the funds.

**A** 17-year-old vision of city streets filled with American flags in noble tribute to America's military heroes has become a reality for Crawford-Hale American Legion Post 92, Vandalia, Ill. E. Dale Slater said his post began building its avenue of flags in 1968. For each flag donated, the post furnishes a pole and a brass plaque on which is inscribed the name of the veteran, branch of service, war, and donor's name. The post has invested more than \$13,000 in its nearly 700 American, state and foreign flags, which are displayed on Memorial Day and other patriotic occasions. Whatever the event, it has become such a popular tradition that CBS News reported on the flags a few years ago.

Glen Pederson Post 1 in Spencer, Iowa, also has had an avenue of flags program for community and post members since 1963. The post started with 90 flags, and has built its patriotic inventory into a 694-flag collection.

**I**n 1948, in the rugged wilds of Vancouver Island, B.C., a U.S. Navy aircraft with nine crewmembers crashed into a mountain. When the wreckage was discovered years later, attempts to recover the remains were considered by government officials, but dismissed because of the cost

involved, gale-force winds, ever-present snow, and the remoteness and altitude of the site. However, veteran Raymond H. Swentek, whose brother Lt. Edward T. Swentek was one of the nine, has found a bush pilot who says he can fly into the site and extract the remains. To raise funds for the expedition, Swentek has organized a tax-exempt public trust at L'Enfant Plaza, P.O. Box 23490, Washington, DC 20026.

**"O**ld veterans never die...they just keep serving The American Legion," is the philosophy of 89-year-old Elmer E. Kuhs.

A Navy veteran of World War I, Kuhs joined the Legion in 1919 and was commander of Post 40 in 1946. When that post disbanded, Kuhs joined Quentin Roosevelt Post 1, St. Louis, Mo. He still maintains a business and can be found daily in his office. He drives to work every day and is active in other civic organizations. Under his direction, the post raised \$1,200 for child welfare programs. For the past 20 years he has served as treasurer for the St. Louis Past Commanders Club. This year Kuhs was elected Post 1 commander, and is fulfilling all the duties of the commander in addition to running his business.



**P**laying the numbers and still going strong is Edgar C. (Tom) Acton, since 1919 a member of Gillen Post 33, Bedford, Ind. Acton, 86 has been married for 68 years to the same woman; has been a Legionnaire nearly 67 years; rode bikes and motorcycles for 55 years; operated his own wholesale fruit and vegetable business for 21 years; worked as a used car salesman for 33 years; and has lived in the same house for 46 years.



**E**nthusiasm and genius were the twin pillars of success that earned Gus Albrecht the Missouri



Department's honor award for his outstanding contributions. A 1919 charter member of Rucker-McAllister Post 7, Brunswick, Mo., Albrecht chaired the post finance and membership committees almost continuously for 50 years. He helped achieve an All-time-high of 578 members immediately following World War II. Although membership has declined mainly through natural attrition, it remains a strong 306. Albrecht also served as the third and final drum major of the post's drum and bugle corps of World War I veterans. His greatest achievement was to raise \$65,000 to build The American Legion hall in Brunswick.

**I**t's called "Big Sky Country," but Montana has many other attributes to crow about, especially two dynamo Legionnaires at Hellgate Post 27 in Missoula, who, between them, have 73 years of Legion experience. John Wilson, with 33 years in the post, and Fred Burnell, with 40 years in the Legion and 24 in the post, have been through all post positions, plus many district, department and national appointments.

Burnell is the creative genius behind the post's successful baseball program. The team won the state championship last year for the first time since 1942. Under his direction, more than \$30,000 annually is raised to support the team, and last year he managed to

get 17 acres of land donated to the team for its use.

Wilson does equally well in the Boys State program, an assignment he's enjoyed for 21 years. He's established a permanent Boys State position in local schools. He gets five delegates sponsored annually and ensures the 30 to 40 students bound for Boys State each year get a free send-off breakfast.

**M**embership is the fuel that runs Wilburn Moore's universe. Described by fellow Legionnaires as a "high achiever" during his more than 30 years with the Legion, Moore has held every elective position in Post 49, Athens, Ala., including his current position as commander. Although active in Boys State and oratorical programs, Moore has made his mark in membership recruitment. He averages more than 100 members per year, a record he's maintained for more than 20 years.



**D**ashing boldly through the deadly skies of war-torn France, a gallant World War I American flying ace, Lt. Howard C. Knotts, displayed extreme grace under pressure at the controls of his British Sopwith Camel as he coolly dispatched eight enemy fighters. When he was shot down and became a temporary POW, he managed to destroy seven more planes on the ground. His daredevil escapades got him shot down twice, wounded twice and cited for gallantry and exceptional bravery twice. After the war, Knotts became a founding member of Springfield Post 32, Springfield Ill., and one of the nation's leading experts in civil aviation law. He also produced the first complete aeronautical code in the United States. To keep the memory of Knotts and his achievements alive, Post 32 and local community members dedicated a memorial lounge in his name at the Springfield Airport.



**WHEELS OF HOPE**—Helping veterans to achieve independence is one of the aims of Post 262, Cloquet, Minn., which donated a much-needed wheelchair to Clarence Krier. On hand to deliver the chair were Merit Walt (left), post service officer, and Post Cmdr. Luke Anderson.

## LEGIONNAIRE OF THE MONTH



*Finis Gold*

**W**E had more men like Finis Gold, we'd have 200,000 Legionnaires in Missouri. I can't think of anyone more deserving of being named Legionnaire of the Month than Finis," said Dept. Adj. Lloyd A. Foulkrod.

A World War II veteran and charter member of Nixa Memorial Post 434, Gold was post commander in the '50s. Asked to retake command in 1984, with membership at 86, he agreed only if post members and the Auxiliary would work to recruit members from among Korean War and Vietnam War veterans.

By June 1985, post membership had increased to 126 and included 23 Vietnam veterans signed up by Gold, Foulkrod said.

Gold has been a service officer for 33 years, a member of the National Veterans Preference Committee for seven years, and has served one term as district commander and two terms as vice commander.

As clerk of the Nixa American Legion Rural Fire Dept., he worked on campaigns to upgrade the town's emergency equipment, and he personally raised \$5,500 for needy families at Christmas time 1984.

"I don't know of any post in the state that has more community involvement than Nixa Memorial," said Foulkrod. "Gold has done an outstanding job."



## Post 128, Sidney, Iowa

# Rodeo Changes Life in Town

**H**OW about a rodeo?" That suggestion in 1924 brought skepticism and laughter to the meeting of Williams-Jobe-Gibson Post 128 in Sidney, Iowa, but 61 annual rodeos later Sidney calls itself "Rodeo Town U.S.A." and the post is a keystone of the community.

An unheard-of event in Iowa in the '20s, the rodeo was suggested as a means to provide entertainment for the Grand Army of the Republic reunion and encampment, held annually near Sidney since 1889.

The Sidney Rodeo today is a championship event in a 9,000-seat stadium sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. It draws 250 to 350 contestants to the week-long competition in this town of 1,200 people, and has become a focus for cooperation and community effort that has spread to nearby towns in Fremont County.

Iowa Dept. Adj. James R. Quinlan estimated that 95 percent of the town's eligible veterans belong to the 336-member post. He described the post as "a magnet" because it draws members from nearby towns and from towns in bordering states, professional cowboys from other states, and former residents of Sidney who return annually to work in the rodeo.

Quinlan said the post's "unique excellent rapport with the community" has made possible a sharing of property and

labor throughout Fremont County, contributing significantly to the success of post and community projects.

Post Cmdr. Hawley Schaaf said the town let the post build rodeo stands overlapping city land. The post, in turn, designated some of its rodeo grounds for use as a city park, which is maintained by Legionnaires who volunteer their time and equipment to supplement the post's mower.

***"The town shuts down, stores are closed and the bank president is out helping to sell tickets."***

The post also has donated land to the city for a swimming pool and to the county for Fremont County 4-H fairs. Working together, Legionnaires and community members built six buildings on the donated land for 4-H activities.

This sharing escalates during August each year when the rodeo hits town. Schaaf said rodeo activities so dominate the community that "The town shuts down, stores are closed and the bank president is out helping to sell tickets."

"The town and the post both need each other's help to make things work," Schaaf said. "We get along well. The chamber of commerce helps us by sponsoring the parade and color guard competition, and the churches help us by sponsoring dinners to raise money for our projects. It takes \$125,000 each year to sponsor the rodeo."

Although a profitable enterprise during most of its years, the rodeo has lost money the past two years because of the area's depressed economy. But Schaaf said he is optimistic that this year's event on Aug. 7 to 11 will be more profitable. He said he is enthusiastic about more assistance coming from nearby communities.

Schaaf said he is pleased by the way people are supporting the rodeo. "A few years ago, there were some jealousies, and other towns wouldn't do anything with us, but now that we need the help they have all gotten behind us, he said."

The rodeo is not the only post activity, although it helps fund other activities and keeps its members involved in other projects, which include annual sponsorship of four to six students for Boys State; a Christmas party for area pre-school children; making Christmas "care" packages for residents of the Knoxville, Iowa, veterans home; making regular visits to a nearby institution for the mentally handicapped; and helping with entertainment programs at the veterans hospital in Omaha, Neb., 50 miles away. Volunteers at the Omaha hospital are given free, front-row tickets to the rodeo and special recognition during the events. The post also sponsors baseball teams for all ages. Volunteers work the games to raise \$800 to match the same amount from the chamber of commerce for team uniforms.

Schaaf said that what really makes the rodeo and other post projects possible is the continuous working relationship between Legionnaires and the community. "I hardly ever hear an argument," he said. "We're a close-knit bunch of people who realize that we need each other to make our community a success." □



**RODEO TIME** — Post 128 flag bearers lead the Sidney, Iowa, band in parade to open the annual rodeo. This year's rodeo, Aug. 7-11, will be the 62nd.





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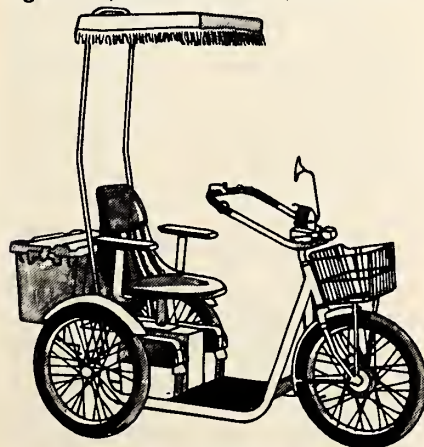
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# VETERANS ALERT

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

**Guidelines**—Outfit Reunion notices are published for Legionnaires only and must be submitted on official forms. To obtain forms, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to O.R. Form, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Notices must be received at least seven months before reunions are scheduled and will be published only on a first-come, first-served basis.

**1st Conv. Hospital** (Sept-Grinnell, IA) Richard Park, Box E, Victor, IA 52347 (319) 647-2221

**1st Sig. Assn., 7th Army** (Sept-Columbus, OH) John Hinkle, 4274 Rudy Rd., Columbus, OH 43214 (614) 451-3833

**4th Ivy Inf. Div. (OH Chapter)** (Oct-Colubus, OH) Elmer Klaus, 2397 Bennett Rd., Madison, OH 44057 (216) 428-1983

**5th Arm'd Div. (Midwest)** (Sept-Grand Island, NE) James Burrell, 9245 Rochester, Topeka, KS 66617 (913) 288-1534

**10th Mtn. Div. (Nov-Charleston, SC)** Charles Hunt, 210 Claxton Dr., Greenville, SC 29611

**10th Mtn. Div. (New England Chapter-WWII)** (Sept-Mt. Sunapee, NH) H. H. Richards, Rt. 1, Box 79H, Center Harbor, NH 03226 (603) 253-6135

**14th F.A. Obsarv. Bn.** (Sept-St. Paul, MN) Nick Kenitz, 312 2nd Street East, Wabasha, MN 55981 (612) 565-3827

**15th Major Port T.C.** (Oct-Cincinnati) Roland Schaefer, 1805 Sybil Ct., St. Louis, MO 63125 (314) 544-2262

**19th Combat Engrs. WWII** (Oct-Alexandria, LA) Mahlon Campbell, 307 Rogers Rd., Norristown, PA 19403 (215) 539-9140

**24th Sig. HV Constr. Bn.** (Aug-Wooster, OH) Ted Martin, Killbuck, OH 44637 (216) 276-6430

**27th Div.** (Sept-Kerhonkson, NY) Joe Nader, 125 Elliott Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705

**32nd General Hospital WWII** (Sept-St. Louis) Ralph Baker, 1 Elwood Lane, Hagerstown, MD 21740 (301) 739-3889

**40th Combat Engrs. Assn. (Natl.)** (Aug-Arlington, VA) George Weiler Jr., 1753 Tamarack St., So. Milwaukee, WI 53172 (414) 764-4697

**40th Station Hospital WWII** (Oct-Kansas City, MO) Art Sawyer, 402 Herrick Park Dr., Tecumseh, MI 49286 (517) 423-2695

**45th Inf. Div. Recon. Troop WWII** (Sept-Oklahoma City) Harvey York, 812 N. 2nd, Marlow, OK 73055 (405) 658-3090

**55th QM Base Depot Assn.** (Oct.) Forrest Ingram, 856 Mendoza Dr., Kissimmee, FL 32758 (305) 933-0945

**65th Div.** (Sept-Charleston, SC) Fred Cassata, 123 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14213 (716) 886-2960

**75th Station Hospital** (Sept-Lancaster, PA) Edward Dickson, 433 Sycamore Rd., West Reading, PA 19611 (215) 376-9657

**89th Div. Soc. WWII** (Sept-Colorado Springs, CO) E. C. Buchanan, 2419 37th St., Des Moines, IA 50310 (515) 255-0736

**94th Sig. Bn.** (Aug-Phoenix, AZ) Lester Sell, 401 E. Echo Ln., Phoenix, AZ 85020 (602) 944-3053

**112th Sta. Hoap., 263rd Gen. Hosp. (Calcutta)** (Nov-Dayton, OH) Keith Straight, 1521 S. 29th St., LaCrosse, WI 54601 (608) 788-0461

**131st QM Truck Co.** (Oct-Pottsville, PA) Howard Long, 437 Pine St., Shoemakersville, PA 19555 (215) 562-7881

**147th Engr. Vet. Assn.** (Oct-Louisville, KY) Les Detrick, 508 W. 9th St., Marion, IN 46953 (317) 664-8281

**164th Inf., II Island Command, 294th AGF Band** (Oct-Fargo, ND) Art Nix, 1012 6th Ave., So., Moorehead, MN 56560 (218) 233-3883

**204th F.A. Bn. (Korea-1951-53)** (Aug-Salt Lake City) John Richardson, Rt. 21, Palmyra, NY 14522 (315) 597-9611

**260th Arty. Assn.** (Oct-Clinton, MD) James Roberts, 5808 Larpin Ln., Alexandria, VA 22310 (703) 971-4642

**311th Ordn. Depot Co.** (Sept-Lancaster, PA) Jack Scott, Box 961, Princeton, WV 24740 (304) 425-8051

**328th Inf. CT WWII** (Oct.) Bob Clapp, 208 Aspinwall Ave., Brookline, MA 02146

**359th S/L Bn. AAA** (Sept-Bedford, PA) C. R. Zielinski, 6015 Fullerton Ave., Cleveland, OH 44105

**386th AAA AW Bn. WWII** (Oct-Gloversville, NY) Matthew Russo, 14 3rd Ave., Gloversville, NY 12708 (518) 725-4065

**445th Ordn. HAM Co.** (Sept-Lexington, OK) Leroy Law, Rt. 3, Box 175, Lexington, OK 73051 (405) 872-3052

**502nd AAA Bn.** (Sept-Gettysburg, PA) James Seibert, 1310 Valley View Ave., Wheeling, WV 26003 (304)

242-5153

**530th, 560th, 561st, 562nd, 686th Aircraft Warning Cos.** (Oct-St. Louis) Vincent Long, 5964 Berkley, St. Louis, MO 63134

**534th AAA Bn.** (Aug-Alton, IL) Harold Rayfield, 56 Rayfield Ln., St. Charles, MO 63303 (314) 441-6367

**550th AAA AW Bn., 3rd Army WWII** (Oct-Westfield, NY) Vince Calarco, 112 E. Main, Westfield, NY 14787 (716) 326-2320

**551st QM Rid. Co. WWII** (Aug-Seattle) Leroy Levens, 5013 J Pky., Sacramento, CA 95823

**625th Ordn. Ammo Co.** (Aug-Canton, OH) M. J. Chatterelli, Box 362, Beach City, OH 44608

**626th Tank Destroyer Bn.** (Sept-Bedford, MA) Fred White, 18 Spring Park Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

**635th Tank Destroyer Bn.** (Oct-Topeka, KS) Ray Spangler, 2762 SE Granger, Topeka, KS 66605 (913) 267-1619

**693rd M.G., AW, AB** (Aug-Wauseon, OH) Dale Lantz, Archbold, OH 43502 (419) 445-6441

**698th Engr. Maint. Co.** (Aug-Ft. Carson, CO) W. R. Austin, 404 1st Ave., NW, B4A, Dodge Center, MN 55927 (507) 374-2316

**704th Tank Destroyer Bn. Assn.** (Oct-Bastogne, Belgium) Richard Bowman, 71 Rt. 25A, Smithtown, NY 11787 (516) 265-2560

**721st Engr. Depot Co.** (Sept-Baltimore) Allen Hamel, 7007 Coolridge Dr., Camp Springs, MD 20031 (301) 449-5610

**733rd Engr. Depot Co.** (Oct-Nashville, TN) Nick Biesecker, 8239 Elaine Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

**745th Tank Bn. WWII** (Oct-Oakbrook, IL) A. G. Spencer, 760 Glen Ave., Marseilles, IL 61341 (815) 795-4838

**749th Tank Bn. (Midwest)** (Aug-Dayton, OH) Robert Myers, Box 35, Englewood, OH 45322 (513) 836-5995

**749th, 756th Tank Bns. Assn.** (Oct-Fresno, CA) George Montgomery, 11625 W. Barstow Ave., Fresno, CA 93705 (209) 266-2958

**820th Tank Destroyer Bn.** (Oct-Ft. Mitchell, KY) George Verbeke, 16085 Veronica, East Detroit, MI 48021 (313) 779-8046

**824th Tank Destroyer Bn.** (Oct-Hicksville, NY) H. Lizak, 24 Coachman Ln., Levittown, NY 11756 (516) 796-4853

**825th T.D. Bn. (all companies)** (Oct-Knoxville, TN) Elmer Berry, Rt. 1, Box 6825, Fairview Rd., Coryton, TN 37721 (615) 687-7915

**853rd Engr. AVN Bn. WWII** (Sept-Dayton, OH) Rodney Berger, 11815 Wakeley Plaza, #11, Omaha, NE 68154 (402) 330-1632

**945th F.A. Bn. (Nov-Des Moines, IA)** George Buck, 726 50th St., Des Moines, IA 50312 (515) 255-4269

**974th, 975th F.A. Bns.** (Aug-Pennsylvania) James McDonald, Rt. 1, Grampian, PA 16838 (814) 583-7478

**1905th Engr. AVN Bn.** (Aug-Baton Rouge, LA) Winston Carroll, 7186 Government St., Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (504) 927-1060

**3440th Ordn. MAM Co.** (Oct-Saginaw, MI) Maurice Mellor, 1466 Colridge Blvd., Saginaw, MI 48603 (517) 793-5054

**3518th Ordn. MAM Co.** (Aug-Ft. Mitchell, KY) Forrest Webster, 869 Rosewood Dr., Villa Hills, KY 41017 (606) 341-8931

**"A" Btry., 93rd AAA Gun Bn.** (Sept-Marquette, MI) Raymond LaCosse, Box 693, Stambaugh, MI 49964 (906) 265-9529

**"A" Co., 30th Engrs. Topo Bn. H&S Co., 655th Engrs. Topo Bn., Cadras** (Sept-Newburgh, NY) Bill McClurg, 330 Fostertown Rd., Newburgh, NY 12550 (914) 564-2970

**"A" Co., 387th Regt., 97th Inf. Div.** (Aug.) Charles Hunt, 10686 Creeknoil Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45242 (513) 791-1353

**"B" Btry., 449th AAA AW Bn.** (Oct-Rocky Hill, CT) John Markoya, 1083 Capitol Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606 (203) 336-2000

**"B" Co., 604th Ordn. Bn.** (Aug-Kansas City, MO) Victor Liddle, 3605 Blue Ridge Blvd., Independence, MO 64052 (816) 353-6890

**"C" Btry., 67th AAA Gun Bn.** (Oct-Providence, RI) Tim Sullivan, 49 Moss St., Fall River, MA 02720 (617) 679-6149

**"C" Btry., 112th Gun Bn. WWII** (Nov-Falmouth, MA) Robert Ruthven, 61 Cedar Knolls, Branford, CT 06405

**"C" Btry., 389th F.A. Bn.** (Oct-Peru, IN) Rolland Maus, Rt. 1, Denver, IN 46926 (317) 985-2466

**"D" Btry., 460th AAA** (Aug-Ft. Wayne, IN) Frank Ringler, 51636 E. Gatehouse Dr., South Bend, IN 46637 (219) 277-1536

**"F" Co., 156th Inf., 31st Div.** (Nov-Breaux Bridge, LA) Wayne Savoy, Box 156, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517 (318) 332-2925

**"H" Co., 389th Inf., 98th Div. WWII** (Oct-Orlando, FL) Bill Bray, 34A Bruan Pl., Clifton, NJ 07012

**HQ&HQ Btry., 13th F.A. Brigade** (Oct-Fayetteville, NC) Kenneth Williams, 22 Eldorado St., Toms River, NJ 08757

**IV Corps HDQ's Assn.** (Oct-St. Louis) Marvin Seigel, 11103 Riassa Sq., St. Louis, MO 63138

**Light Horae Sq. 105th Cavalry** (Sept-Milwaukee) Robert Dix, 2836 N. 46th St., Milwaukee, WI 53210

**Los Angeles MP Organ.** (Sept-Ft. Wayne, IN) Thurman Williams, 1165 Holgate Ave., Maumee, OH 43537 (419) 893-6471

**Military Railway Surv. Vats. WWII** (Sept-Milwaukee) Don Hughes, 422 Harrison Ave., No. Mankato, MN 56001

**NAMWON, Korea EX-POWs** (Sept.) Andy Anderson, 1009 Washington St., Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 682-1137

**S.I.S. (Australia, New Guinea, Luzon)** (Oct-Louisville, KY) Grace DeJarnette, 1205 Castlewood Ave., Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 451-8494

**Society of the Third Inf. Div.** (Sept-Tampa, FL) Col. J. S. Cole, 2350 Middlecoff Dr., Dunedin, FL 33528

**Station Hospital (Ft. Bragg)** (Nov-Fayetteville, NC) Remus Adams, 4004 Karen Lake Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28303 (919) 867-0841

**U.S. Army Hospital Ship Thistia** (Oct-Charleston, SC) Donald Holte, Box 656, Surf City, NC 28445 (919) 328-1702

**Y-Force, FATC (CBI)** (Sept-San Francisco) Jack Sweet, Box 325, Kentfield, CA 94904 (415) 461-5526

## Navy

**18th Spacial N.C.B.** (Oct-Virginia Beach, VA) John Taylor, 2304 Turnpike Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23704 (804) 393-4017

**35th Saabees** (Aug-Providence, RI) Phil Silver, 924 Stratford Ct., Westbury, NY 11590 (516) 334-3424

**107th Saabees** (Aug-Vincennes, IN) John Kornfeind, 613 Elm Ct., Spooner, WI 54801 (715) 635-8302

**Composit Sq. YC 90** (Oct-Orlando, FL) R. A. Wilkens, 14 Chesney Ct., Palm Coast, FL 32037

**National Yeoman (F)** (Aug-New Orleans) Anne Kendig, 67 Ocean Bay Club Dr., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308

**Saabees Vats of Amarica** (Aug-Ft. Lauderdale, FL) Ben Ladineth, 225 SW 11th Ct., Pompano Beach, FL 33060 (305) 781-4237

**USS Aquarius AKA 16 (1944-45)** (Aug-Washington) Larry Pelletier, 8660 Devonshire Ct. #103, Manassas, VA 22110

**USS Belknap APD 34** (Oct-Charleston, SC) Richard Nitkulnec, 304 Congress Ave., Johnston, VA 15905 (800) 255-4455

**USS Blackhawk, Assigned Destroyer Divs.** (Sept-Kansas City, KS) G. H. Mason, 5112 21st St. NE, Puyallup, WA 98372 (206) 863-8666

**USS Brooklyn CL 40 Hist. Soc. Inc.** (Sept-Green Bay, WI) Anton Pflanzner, 841 Nicolet Ave., Green Bay, WI 54304

**USS Canberra CA 70/CAG 2** (Sept-Brisbane, Australia) Jerry Der Boghosian, 168 Blake St., Lewiston, ME 04240 (207) 782-5211

**USS Carina AK 74** (Sept-Minneapolis) Joe Commerford, 2828 38th Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55406

**USS Chamung AO 30** (Sept-Lancaster, PA) Ralph Seifert, Box 762, Asbury, NJ 08802

**USS Coastas DE 685** (Oct-Newport, RI) Charles Katan, 5 Tilden Rd., Danbury, CT 06810 (203) 748-3036

**USS Delta AR 9** (Aug-Poughkeepsie, NY) Joe Liguori, 25 Wasson Dr., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (914) 297-7604

**USS Eldorado** (Nov-Rochester, NY) Robert Persichitti, 903 S. Lincoln Rd., East Rochester, NY 14445 (716) 586-6984

**USS Emmona DD457/DMS 22** (Oct-Pennsylvania) David Jensen, 87-26 259th St., Floral Park, NY 11001

**USS Escambla AO 80** (Sept-Sacramento) Virgil Grier, 2144 S. Everett, Wichita, KS 67213 (316) 943-0526

**USS Gambler Bay CVE 73** (Oct-Nashville, TN) Tony Potochniak, 1100 Holly Ln., Endicott, NY 13760 (607) 748-3284

**USS Grayson DD 435** (Oct-Charleston, SC) Frank Erdos, 2310 Canal Bluff Pl., Sarasota, FL 33581 (813) 921-3265

**USS Jarvia DD 799** (Oct-Indianapolis) Robert Becker, Box 2451, Kokomo, IN 46902

**USS Johnaton DD 557, USS Hoel DD 553** (Oct-St. Louis) R. M. Billie, Rt. 7, Box 655, Alexandria, MN 57308

**USS Lardner DD 487** (Aug-Madison, WI) Wallace Bulgrin, 428 Robert St., Ft. Atkinson, WI 53538 (414) 513-3857

**USS LSM 40** (Aug-Pittsburgh) E. L. Fitzpatrick, 250 E. Colorado, La Grange, TN 78945 (409) 968-3340

**USS LSM 83** (Sept-Terre Haute, IN) Leonard Snyder, 2227 1st Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47807 (812) 232-2505

**USS LSM 133** (Sept-Norfolk, VA) Lyell Wegner, 302 E. Wilson, Elmhurst, IL 60120



**USS LST 325** (Oct-Norfolk, VA) Chet Conway, 233 Oakwood St., Hammond, IN 46324 (219) 933-7558  
**USS LST 588** (Oct-Norfolk, VA) Jim Barger, 6520 Post Town Rd., Dayton, OH 45426 (513) 854-2156  
**USS LST 611** (Oct-Charleston, SC) Ted Brand, 620 Montgomery Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 263-1355  
**USS LST 851** (Sept-Springfield, IL) Sidney Zeilstra, 18906 Wildwood Ave., Lansing, IL 60438 (312) 895-6253  
**USS Manchester CL 83** (Aug-Manchester, NH) Frank Helfenberger, 13340 19th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125-4115  
**USS P.G.M. 25** (Oct.) Robert Rogers, 1740 Highland Pky., St. Paul, MN 55116 (612) 699-0674  
**USS Russell DD 414** (Oct-San Diego) Walter Singleterry, 4544 62nd St., San Diego, CA 92115 (619) 582-1337  
**USS St. Lo CVE 63** (Oct-St. Louis) John Ibe, 1477 Lakeridge Ln., El Cajon, CA 92020 (619) 458-9822  
**USS Thorn DD 647** (Aug-Bethlehem, PA) Kaj Swenson, 2190 Allwood Dr., Bethlehem, PA 18018 (215) 867-1245  
**USS Whipple DD 217** (Sept-Overland Park, KS) Ed Kuit, Rt. 3, Box 98, Coon Rapids, IA 50058 (712) 684-5473

## Marines

**2nd Marine Div. Aasn., G-2-6, 6th Mar. Regt.** (Sept-San Diego) Bob Groves, 1709 Columbia Dr., Richardson, TX 75081  
**6th Marine Div. Aasn.** (Sept-Clearwater Beach, FL) George Booz, 125 6th St. No., Safety Harbor, FL 33572 (813) 725-3438  
**17th AAA Bn.** (Aug-Ft. Myers, FL) Arnold Mervin, 2523 SE 22nd Ave., Cape Coral, FL 33904  
**"B" Co., 4th Inf. Bn. (Korea-Duluth, MN)** (Aug.) Ed McKeever, 1120 N. 11th Ave. East, Duluth, MN 55805  
**Marine Corps Institute Detach., 8th & 1 Barracks** (1952-54) (Oct-Washington) John Ryan, 166 Saratoga Ave., Waterford, NY 12188 (518) 237-0978  
**VMB 423, MAG 61 (Green la-Emirau)** (Oct-Philadelphia) William Dunn, 3310 Edge Ln., Thorndale, PA 19372

## Army Air Forces

**2nd Emerg. Air/Sea Rescue Sq.** (Dec-Philadelphia) John Crawford, 10 Filbert Ave., Stratford, NJ 08084  
**6th Photo Comp. Sq. Aasn. WWII** (Oct-St. Louis) William Pearce, 13925 NE 16th Ct., No. Miami, FL 33181 (305) 891-8083  
**8th Combat Cargo Sq., 2nd Comb. Cargo Grp.** (SWPA-WWII) (Oct-Orlando, FL) Paul Vaughan, 4916 Wortser Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 (213) 747-0241  
**18th Pursuit Sq. WWII** (Oct-Bakersfield, CA) Arthur Cretell, Box B, Wasco, CA 93280 (805) 758-2249  
**26th F.S., 51st F.G.** (Aug-Tucson, AZ) Gordon Spence, 1464 W. Beverly Dr., Anaheim, CA 92801 (714) 535-9630  
**35th Ftr. Cont. Sq., 13th A.F. (1942-43)** (Oct-Colorado Springs, CO) Kenneth Bogart, 512 W. Kirwin, Salina, KS 67401 (913) 823-3604  
**40th Bomb Grp. (Sept-Denver)** Otis Cox, 21 W. 111 Coronet Rd., Lombard, IL 60148  
**42nd Serv. Sq., 329th Serv. Grp. WWII** (Oct-Baton Rouge, LA) Howard Brosset, 5848 Menlo Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
**55th Ftr. Grp., 442nd Air Serv. Grp.** (Oct-Colorado Springs, CO) Irv Geeslin, Box 30798, Gahanna, OH 43230  
**131th Wing., 6th, 9th, 504th, 505th Bomb Grps.** (Nov-Omaha, NE) William Gibson, 5214 Pierce Ave., Ogden, UT 84403 (801) 479-4885  
**314th Comp. Wing., HQ & HQ Sq., 5th A.F. (Johnston Field, Japan)** (Sept-Louisville, KY) L. J. Buddo, Box 35372, Louisville, KY 40232 (502) 459-1121  
**315th Bomb Wing (VH)** (Sept-Omaha, NE) G. E. Harrington, 4600 Ocean Beach Blvd., Apt. 505, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931 (305) 784-0342  
**336th Serv. Sq. WWII** (Oct-Winter Haven, FL) Giles Lakeman, 3993 Simpson Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45227 (513) 271-8191  
**339th Army Sq. (Sept-Reno, NV)** Phil Zito, 4 Villa Pl., Novato, CA 94947 (415) 897-7383  
**348th Air Serv. Sq.** (Oct-Milwaukee) Leonard Klafka, 2144 S. 107th St., West Allis, WI 53227 (414) 545-1795  
**Sioux City Air Base (354th B.S., 224th Comb. Crew, Base Unit, 828th B.S., 485th B.G., Personnel-Mil. or Civ.)** (Sept-Sioux City, IA) Joe Lukac, 506 Jackson St., Port Clinton, OH 43452 (419) 734-1695  
**397th Bomb Grp. (M), 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th Sqdns.** (Oct-San Diego) Thomas Bedarano, 14533

Langhill Dr., Hacienda, CA 91745 (213) 330-9627  
**830th Bomb Sq.** (Oct-Brownsville, TX) Lyle Talbott, 310 Mohican Dr., Crooksville, OH 43731 (614) 982-2816  
**Martin Prov. Grp. Aasn. (B17-WWII)** (Aug-Dayton, OH) Ed Sexton, 472 W. Union St., E. Bridgewater, MA 02333  
**Woman's Army Corps Vets Assn.** (Sept-Kissimmee, FL) Fern Hunter, 1695 Lee Rd., #A101, Winter Park, FL 32789

## Air Force

**7th, 19th, 28th LSS** (Oct-Harlingen, TX) Paul Schlachter, 608 Richmond, Norman, OK 73071  
**12th E.F.T.S. R.C.A.F. (Sky Harbour)** (Aug-Ontario, Canada) Harold Bettger, Box 364, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 4C6 Canada  
**41st Bomb Grp. (M), 47th, 48th, 396th, 820th Sqdn., 7th A.F. WWII** (Oct-Las Vegas, NV) Gene Olsen, 2100 Meridian Park Blvd., Concord, CA 94520 (415) 825-8151  
**41st Radio Sq. Mobile, 7011th Personnel Proc. Sq. (Bremerhaven, Germany)** (Sept-Kansas City, KS) Glenn Brown, 10042 Knox Dr., Overland Park, KS 66212 (913) 492-6455  
**54th Ftr. Sq. p-38** (Sept-Colorado Springs, CO) Truman Hermanson, 3520 Bowdoin St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (303) 633-7262  
**57th Ftr. Grp. WWII** (Sept-Colorado Springs, CO) Thomas Tilley, 1638 Collins Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918 (303) 598-5322  
**75th Troop Carrier Sq.** (Sept-Charleston, SC) James Nelson, 97 Duncan St., Whitmire, SC 29178 (803) 694-2398  
**79th Ftr. Grp., 85th, 86th, 87th Sqdns.** (Aug-Boston) Edwin Newkould, 1206 SE 27th Terr., Cape Coral, FL 33904 (813) 574-7098  
**98th Bomb Grp. Vets Aasn. (B24, B29, B47)** (Oct-San Antonio, TX) Cory Orne Jr., Box 553, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108  
**304th Ftr. Sq. Aasn.** (Sept-Kansas City, MO) Tracy Little, 3011 Westover St., Shreveport, LA 71108 (318) 635-2426  
**312th Ftr. Control Sq.** (Sept-Dayton, OH) Ray Allen, 3012 S. Clay St., Green Bay, WI 54301 (414) 336-1114  
**328th Ftr. Cont. Sq.** (Sept-St. Louis) John Elwood, 5716 N. 34th Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85017  
**349th Air Engr. Sq., 86th Air Serv. Grp. (1944-45)** (Sept-Columbus, OH) Franklin Watson, 2521 18th St., Columbus, IN 47201 (812) 379-9249  
**352nd Ftr. Grp. Aasn. WWII** (Oct-Wichita, KS) Dick DeBruin, 234 N. 74th St., Milwaukee, WI 53213 (414) 771-0744  
**354th Ftr. Grp. (Mustang)** (Oct-Myrtle Beach, SC) George Bickell, 4212 Majestic Ln., Fairfax, VA 22033  
**367th Ftr. Grp., 392nd, 393rd, 394th Ftr. Sqdns., 9th A.F. (Nov-Boston)** Harold Chait, 356 Auburn St., Whitman, MA 02382 (617) 447-3920  
**385th BGMA** (Sept-Los Angeles) Sam Lyke, 4992 SE Princeton Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006 (918) 333-4939  
**529th A.C. & W. Grp. (All Sqdns. Okinawa)** (Oct-Dayton, OH) N. E. Cole, 2732 Warwick Dr., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013  
**Shermanfield 3rd Staff Sq.** (Sept-Leavenworth, KS) Roscoe Swenson, 2053 Highland, Salina, KS 67401 (913) 827-2577

## Coast Guard

**USS Callaway APA 35** (Aug-Portland, OR) Wallace Shipp, 5319 Manning Pl., NW, Washington, DC 20016 (202) 363-3663  
**USS Joseph T. Dickman APA 13/131** (Oct-Annapolis, MD) Ron Reese, Rt. 1, Box 140-50, Bunker Hill, WV 25413 (304) 229-2345  
**USS L.C.I. (L) 85** (Nov-Oklaoma City) Elmer Carmichael, Box 401, Okeene, OK 73763 (405) 822-3699

## Miscellaneous

**Mediterranean-Corsica-So. France Veta** (Sept-Nice, France-Corsica) Dieter Friedrich, 1405 E. Vegas Valley Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89109 (702) 737-6653  
**Nat'l Aasn. of Civilian Conserv. Corps** (Sept-Little Rock, AR) NACCA, 7245 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22041 (703) 573-3883  
**Survivors of Bataan-Corregidor** (Aug-Fontana Dam, NC) Wayne Carringer, Box 46, Robbinsville, NC 28771 (704) 479-6201

## LET'S GET TOGETHER

Notices of proposed reunions will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Requests for inclusion must list the unit name, branch of service, contact name, address, including zip code and American Legion membership card number. Submit your request to: "Let's Get Together," The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206

## Army

**24th Depot Brigade Co.** (Camp Funston) Charles McMillen, 801 W. Walnut, Herington, KS 67449  
**51st Engr. Combat Bn. WWII** Charles Attardo, Rear 77 Durkee St., Forty Fort, PA 18704  
**440th AAA AW Bn.** Russell Hage, 17660 Woodbridge Rd., Spring Lake, MI 49459 (616) 846-7876  
**787th F.A. WWII.** Mort Chertack, 767 Banks Rd., Margate, FL 33063 (305) 973-4164  
**"A" Btry., 75th CA AA, "I" Btry., 75th CA Prov. Bn.** Orlando Warp, 1893 Cottonville Ave., Star Rt., Arkdale, WI 54613  
**"A" Co., 798th MP Bn. (1944-46)** Aaron Pyles, 108 Southside Dr., Campbellsville, KY 42718  
**"B" Btry., 134th F.A., 37th Div. WWI.** L.P. Isenman, 3225 Pinecrest St., Sarasota, FL 33579 (813) 924-6641  
**"M" Co., 4th Inf., 3rd Div. WWI. (Rhine River, Germany 1918-19).** Charles Marshall, 2512 Borica Way, Sacramento, CA 95821  
**HQ & HQ Co., 7703 Trans. Major Port (APO 21, Rochefort, France).** Frank Werschev, 445 W. Broad St., Newton Falls, OH 44444

## Navy

**VS 69 WWII.** Victor Leone, 57 Middlesex Ave., Swampscott, MA 01907 (617) 595-3089  
**USS Agawam (1943-46).** D. W. Gitschier, 837 W. 9th St., East Liverpool, OH 43920  
**USS Bruah DD 745.** Ted Dvorak, 8418 15th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140 (414) 658-1997  
**USS Dayton CL 105.** Edwin Chapman, 36 Rossen Pl., Bloomfield, NJ 07003 (201) 338-8410  
**USS PGM 17 WWII.** Harold Evans, 3407 Berea Rd., Richmond, KY 40475

## Marines

**2nd Airdrome, 17th AA Bn. (SpW).** Charles Henry Jr., 6596 Lochober Cove, Memphis, TN 38119 (901) 365-6530

## Army Air Forces

**77th Pursuit Sq. (Hamilton Field), 303rd Pursuit Sq. (Sarasota-WWII).** Thomas McCowan, 2512 E. Washington, Apt. 10, Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 662-8266  
**"A" Co., 599th Sig. Air Warning Bn. (Hawaii, Guam-WWII).** Michael Gregorio, 7 Walden Pl., Huntington, NY 11743 (516) 423-7382  
**Lafayette 70th AAF Flying Trng. Detach.** Robert Dietz, 13633 Ivan Ct., East Liverpool, OH 43920 (216) 386-3813

## Air Force

**90th Sq., 3rd Bomb Grp. WWII.** Jim Lee, 400 Summit St., Farmersville, TX 75031 (214) 782-8326  
**9414th A.F. Reserve Recovery Sq., 8508th AFRR Gp. (GSW, Ft. Worth, TX).** Ken Adcock, P.O. Box 4001, Ft. Worth, TX 76106 (817) 624-8116  
**Air Forces (WWII, CBI, Chabau-Dinjan-Sookerating Vets).** Mac Alama, 115 Seariwn Rd., Syracuse, NY 13205

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## LEGION NEWS

# MEMBERSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM SUPPORTS GOAL OF 3 MILLION

**P**SSST! Hey, Legionnaire. Looking to make a quick \$1,000? How about a precision quartz wristwatch? A sterling silver American Legion membership ring? To get one you only need to recruit new members.

The National Membership and Post Activities Committee developed the idea for the 1986 national membership awards program to help support the membership goal of 3 million Legionnaires.

The Legion's top new-member recruiter will be named the "National Membership Recruiter of the Year," and receive an expense-paid trip to the National Convention in Cincinnati, and recruiter and spouse will receive an expense-paid trip to the Caribbean for a seven-day cruise.

Second place winner will earn a home entertainment center with color television, stereo and videocassette recorder; third will receive a \$1,000

savings bond; each of the next eight will receive a Croton precision quartz movement wristwatch; and the final 15 will earn sterling silver rings.

In addition to post, district and department membership recruiting awards, winners also will receive national awards to recognize and emphasize performance in membership recruiting. Recruiting from five to nine new members will earn a new-member recruiter certificate; 10 to 19, the certificate plus a new-member recruiter lapel pin; 20 to 29, the certificate, pin and a new-member recruiter belt buckle; and 30 and above, the certificate, pin, buckle and a \$25 gift certificate.

The American Legion membership goals for 1986 are quite simple—each post has a minimum goal of exceeding its 1985 membership by at least one member. Department goals are established by the department's 1985 final membership, plus one per post.

## 1948 Dividend Hoax Makes the Rounds in Veterans Groups

**T**HE HOAX about the "1948 Special Dividend" on National Service Life Insurance is back again, resulting in thousands of inquiries to the VA.

A variety of official-looking forms, bearing the address of a VA insurance center, claims that dividends on cancelled insurance are available for the asking.

The dividend referred to as the "1948 Special Dividend," amounted to almost 3 billion dollars, and was paid in 1950 and 1951, to some 16.5 million veterans.

Claims for any dividends declared before Jan. 1, 1952, must have been filed within six years after the date of declaration.

Dividends are paid automatically to current veteran policyholders on an annual basis without their asking.



**PAST NATIONAL CMDR.—S. Perry Brown (1948-49) died June 8 at San Marcos, Texas. He was 92. During his 66 years of Legion membership, PNC Brown held numerous post, department and national appointments, including President, the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation from 1979-81, and at the time of his death was serving as its director. PNC Brown was a life member of Post 33, Beaumont, Texas.**



# Prescription Drugs' Side Effects Revealed

(Atlanta, GA) —

FC&A, a nearby Peachtree City, Georgia publisher, announced today the release of a new book for the general public... ***Prescription Drugs' Side Effects Revealed***.

It reveals the little-known side effects of over 300 of the most often prescribed drugs... side effects which are known to few people besides doctors.

## The Good Effects of Drugs

You take drugs prescribed by your doctor for their good effects like relieving pain, fighting infection, birth control, aiding sleep, calming down, fighting coughs, colds or allergies, or lowering heartbeat and blood pressure.

## Do You Have Any Of These Bad Side Effects?

Prescription drugs can cause diarrhea, dizziness, dry mouth, sleepiness, depression, headache, insomnia, upset stomach, blurred vision, cramps, rashes, constipation, fever, stuffy nose, short breath, high blood pressure, fear, ringing sounds, poor

appetite, balance, sex or heart function.

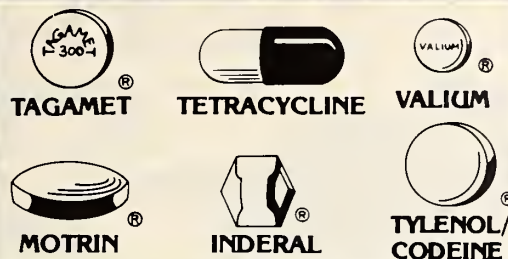
## Do You Know The Answers To These Questions About Prescription Drugs?

When your busy doctor gives you a prescription, what do you, or even your doctor, know about it? What's it for? Will you be allergic to it? What are its side effects and dangers? Will it affect other medicine you're taking?

It's up to YOU to keep yourself informed by reading this book. For example, on page 15 you'll learn that a drug you take for shortness of breath can actually cause breathing difficulties... the very thing it's supposed to prevent.

## Latest Facts On Each Drug

Two outstanding pharmacists have helped add newly discovered side effects to the new edition. The book describes more than 300 of the most-often-used drugs, 100 more drugs than in last year's edition. Facts are given in easy-to-understand words instead of hard-to-understand medical terms.



Do you know the intended good effects and bad side effects of over 300 prescription drugs? Read this article for facts.

## Easy To Read

Drugs are listed in alphabetical order for quick, dictionary-style finding. The book lists brand names, money-saving generic names, good effects, side effects, warnings and interactions with other drugs.

It tells how to save money by using generic drugs instead of expensive brand names. It also explains drug categories. (For example: a drug may be called an "analgesic"... analgesic means "pain reliever.")

## How To Help Your Doctor

Tell your doctor if you have any possible side effects given in this book. If he thinks best, he may lower your dose, stop your medicine or switch to a different drug not having such side effects.

## FREE With Your Order

Order this 30,000-word, easy-to-understand book, edited by two pharmacists, and FC&A will send you **FREE** their newsletter, ***Prescription Drug News!*** There's a no time limit guarantee of full satisfaction or your money back.

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## Are You Taking Any of These Drugs?

(Partial List of Drugs in Book)

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Aldoril®	Elavil®	Lanoxin®	Ornade®	Tagamet®
Amcill®	Empirin/	Larotid®	Ortho-Novum®	Tenormin®
Amoxicillin®	Codeine®	Lasix®	Oval®	Tetracycline
Amoxil®	E-Mycin®	Librax®	Parafor Forte®	Theo-Dur®
Antivert®	Enduron®	Librium®	Pen-Vee K®	Thyroid
Apresoline®	ERYC®	Lidex®	Percodan®	Timoptic®
Atarax®	Erythrocin®	Lomotil®	Persantine®	Tolinase®
Ativan®	Feldene®	Lo Oval®	Phenaphen/	Tranxene®
Bactrim®	Fiorinal®	Lopressor®	Codeine®	Triavil®
Benadryl®	Fiorinal/	Lotrimin®	Phenergan	Tylenol/
Bentyl®	Codeine®	Macrochantin®	Expectorant/	Codeine®
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# FIRST STRIKE

*Continued from page 13*

have achieved a true nuclear superiority for the first time.

In the years from 1945 to about 1975, when the United States first had a nuclear monopoly and then had nuclear superiority, we did not make use of our nuclear weapons to conquer the world, although we could have done so if we had wished. But a world dominated by Soviet nuclear weapons will be another matter. Prudence requires that we take the strongest measures to protect ourselves against this eventuality.

That is the main reason why we need SDI—the American defense against Soviet nuclear missiles. As

**“PRUDENCE  
REQUIRES THAT  
WE TAKE STRONG  
MEASURES  
TO PROTECT  
OURSELVES.”**

soon as we have that defense, even if it is not perfect, our days of peril will be ended. Suppose the defense is only 80 percent effective—a very low estimate, according to defense experts. That means we can shoot down four out of five Soviet warheads in a mass attack. With such a defense in place the Soviets will know that the bulk of our nuclear missile forces *will survive* their attack. They will know that if they attack us, we will be able to strike back with our nuclear weapons and reduce all the major Soviet cities to rubble in 30 minutes. Our defense only has to be good enough to guarantee the survival of most of our retaliatory forces—the key missile silos, Trident submarine pens, air bases—and most important of all, the chain of command beginning with the President, that would actually order a nuclear counterattack against the Soviet Union.

Such a defense, preserving the destructive power of our nuclear arsenal, will virtually foreclose the option of a first strike by the Soviet leaders. That



fact will deter the Soviet leaders from planning an attack. By deterring the Soviet leaders from an attack, our defense will protect the people of America from destruction.

There are other reasons why we need SDI. The biggest one is the size of the Soviets own "Star Wars" effort. Dr. James Fletcher, former head of NASA, who chaired a panel of experts in a thorough study of missile defense, had full access to all the intelligence reports on the Soviet Union's program. Here is what Fletcher had to say after seeing those reports: "The Soviet Union is pursuing their [Star Wars] program at the fastest pace their technology allows. It is unlikely they could accelerate their effort more than they have, *whatever we do.*"

One example shows the magnitude of the Soviet "Star Wars" effort. Figures released by Weinberger indicate that the Soviets are spending roughly \$2 billion a year on lasers alone. That is *five* times as much as the United States is spending this year for laser research in Lt. Gen. James Abrahamson's SDI. It is *twice* as much as the President is asking the Congress for in next year's budget.

The meaning of these facts is plain: If we do not get cracking, we will have no defense against Soviet missiles in the 1990s, but the Soviets will have a good "Star Wars" defense against our missiles, as well as a powerful first-strike force. They will have the means to destroy the United States with nuclear weapons, and no reason to fear the consequences of their actions.

Never before in the history of this nation have we had to contemplate the possibility that a potential adversary could destroy our entire land—people, cities, industry, everything.

One might ask, "Why would the Soviets want to do this?" I do not know the answer to that question. All I do know is that they are busily acquiring the means to do it, and prudence requires that we protect ourselves.

This is what the President wants to do, but he is meeting a lot of resistance in Congress. The funds requested for SDI are \$3.7 billion. That is 1.25 percent of the Defense Department's entire budget. There is no better use of the taxpayer's defense dollars than this—a defense that protects the American people from destruction.

The President needs our help. In my view, we have to help him persuade Congress that in spite of the concern over the deficit, the money for SDI *must* be spent. With the stakes no less than the survival of the Republic, the question is not whether \$3.7 billion is too much, but whether it is enough. □



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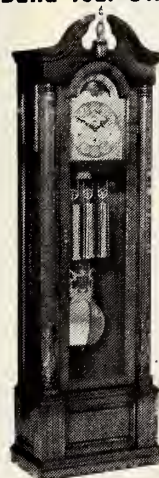
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# THE BIG 'E'

*Continued from page 19*

names of many other Enterprise air- men and crewmen, became household words in the Pacific Fleet. They were the first heroes, and they were badly needed. The Enterprise and her men—those magnificent young men in their magnificent machine—gave a whole nation a rise in spirits in that desperate year of 1942.

On June 4, 290 miles north of Mid- way, reveille came on Enterprise at 3:30 a.m. Nearby was the Hornet, and huffing and puffing up from Pearl came the Yorktown, the yard work- men from Pearl Harbor still aboard and still patching up her Coral Sea wounds. Three carriers against Yamamoto's armada of battleships, cruisers and carriers.

By mid-morning, battle was joined and played out like a ballet. First

ble. The United States bought that victory at Midway with the lives of the brave young men and the life of one carrier, Yorktown. The Japanese set her afire and finally finished her off with torpedoes.

One other great test of 1942 awaited the Americans—Guadalcanal and the fight for the Solomons. The Marines and the Army carried the land battle on Guadalcanal, the Navy carried it at sea in an epic naval confrontation, with no less than seven major battles in the remaining months of 1942.

Enterprise, Wasp and Saratoga covered the landings on August 7, and from that day on it was constant fight- ing on land and sea. On August 24, Enterprise came under attack for the first time, in the Battle of the Eastern Solomons. Late in the afternoon, 30 Val dive-bombers came after her, and in three minutes scored with three heavy bombs—first a 1,000-pounder that hit aft, penetrated five decks and exploded deep within the ship; 30 sec- onds later a second bomb, close after

# "THE ENTERPRISE MANEUVERED SPLENDIDLY AND DODGED NO LESS THAN NINE TORPEDOES."

came the American torpedo bomb- ers—low, slow and vulnerable, a bloody sacrifice by men who knew they'd never get out alive. (Of one whole squadron, Torpedo 8 from the Hornet, not one of the 15 planes re- turned, and only one man survived.)

But then came the dive-bombers. McClusky was again leading Bombing 6 from Enterprise (32 Dauntless SBDs) and the target was fat. Shortly after noon McClusky led Earl Gal- laher's wing down on the carrier Kaga (Increased Joy) and Dick Best's wing took on Akagi (Red Castle). In min- utes both carriers were flaming and sinking. At the same time, Yorktown's dive-bombers caught Soryu (Green Dragon) rearming and blew her apart with 1,000-pound bombs. Just at dusk, Enterprise and Hornet found Hiryu (Flying Dragon) and set her afire and adrift. Yamamoto had brought four big carriers, now he had none. He still had 10 battleships, 15 cruisers and 45 destroyers, but at 4 a.m. on June 5 he made the bitter decision—run for home. He had lost air superiority, and without that he dared not fight. In ef- fect, he had lost the war; victory was still a long way off, but it was inevita-

the first, and then a third bomb, strik- ing the flight deck.

The ship was soon an inferno of burning gasoline, exploding ammuni- tion, ruptured steam pipes, flaming oil and paint. Her rudder was jammed and her planes waited overhead to land. One hour later, the Big E was back on course, recovering planes, her fires under control. It took 38 minutes of heroism, and 74 lives. The next day, Enterprise buried her dead at sea, put her planes ashore at Guadalcanal, and started for Pearl 2,700 miles away. Just a routine miracle. Japan had lost a carrier, Ryujō, and another 70 planes and pilots she couldn't replace.

The Big E was back in the Solomons October 23, not only repaired, but also with new AA guns, and not a moment too soon. On August 31, the Saratoga had been torpedoed again, this time south of Guadalcanal, and headed back for more repairs. Two weeks later, on September 15, the Wasp was tor- pedoed in the same area, and hurt fatally; American ships sank her. Now there were just the Enterprise and the Hornet.

On October 26, the Japanese were back again, this time for the wild,



two-day Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands, and now it was Hornet's turn. She was badly damaged by enemy planes on October 26, and finished off the next day. She was barely one year old when she sank. Again the Big E performed a small miracle. She turned back the Japanese fleet and fought for her life in a 13-hour battle with attacking planes. She took two bombs, a 550-pounder that didn't go off and a 500-pounder that did, causing a heavy explosion below decks. During the afternoon of the 26th, surrounding vessels watched in admiration as the Enterprise maneuvered splendidly and dodged no less than nine torpedoes, using her four powerful screws to make the big carrier dance like a lady at the court ball.

Then she got away and ran for repairs at Noumea. Eleven days later Halsey called her back. She sailed with Seabees and Navy repairmen still patching her up, and got in on the three-day naval Battle of Guadalcanal, November 13-15, Japan's final attempt to reinforce her garrison. The Big E's planes helped sink the battleship Hiei on Friday the 13th, and the heavy cruiser Kinugasa the next day.

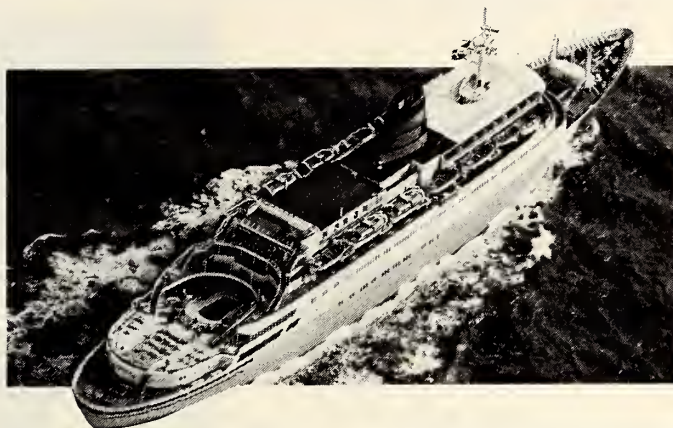
In addition, the carrier pilots blasted away at the transports coming down The Slot with 13,000 fresh troops for Guadalcanal. By November 15, only four transports were left, with 2,000 men, minus their weapons, food and supplies. By mid-afternoon, the battle for Guadalcanal had been decided. The Japanese lost.

On December 7, the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor, the Big E was in the Coral Sea, loaded and ready for bear. As 1943 came in, she had met every challenge given her and was the darling of the fleet. A long war lay ahead, and the Big E was there all the way, the only carrier to start the war and finish it at sea.

By mid-1943 the brand new Essex class carriers were rolling out to sea—including a new Lexington, Yorktown, Wasp and Hornet. But no new Enterprise; none was needed, not in that war. The old reliable went back to the United States for a nine-month modernization and a presidential citation, the first carrier so honored in World War II. And by late 1943 the Enterprise was back in action, ready for the final battles, all the way from the "Great Marianas Turkey Shoot" Battle of the Philippine Sea, June 19-20, 1944, which cost the Japanese over 400 carrier planes, to downtown Tokyo in 1945.

The Enterprise was scrapped after the war, but some sailors believe she's still out there, and still, as Halsey said, "the Galloping Ghost of the Pacific." □

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**EFFECTIVE DATE** Your insurance becomes effective on the first day of the month coinciding with or next following the date your application is received, subject to Insurance Company's approval. Insurance may be maintained in force by payment of premiums when due.

**BENEFITS**—Yearly Renewable Reducing Term Insurance (Policy Form GPC-5700-781) Benefits determined by age at death and include 20% SPECIAL INCREASE for deaths occurring during 1985. Maximum coverage limited to 12 units.

Age at Death	12 Units \$288 per yr.	11 Units \$264 per yr.	10 Units \$240 per yr.	8 Units \$192 per yr.	6 Units \$144 per yr.	5 Units \$120 per yr.	4 Units \$96 per yr.	3 Units \$72 per yr.	2 Units \$48 per yr.	1 Unit \$24 per yr.
Through age 29	\$144,000	\$132,000	\$120,000	\$96,000	\$72,000	\$60,000	\$48,000	\$36,000	\$24,000	\$12,000
30-34	115,200	105,600	96,000	76,800	57,600	48,000	38,400	28,800	19,200	9,600
35-44	64,800	59,400	54,000	43,200	32,400	27,000	21,600	16,200	10,800	5,400
45-54	31,680	29,040	26,400	21,120	15,840	13,200	10,560	7,920	5,280	2,640
55-59	17,280	15,840	14,400	11,520	8,640	7,200	5,760	4,320	2,880	1,440
60-64	11,520	10,560	9,600	7,680	5,760	4,800	3,840	2,880	1,920	960
65-69	7,200	6,600	6,000	4,800	3,600	3,000	2,400	1,800	1,200	600
70-74*	4,752	4,356	3,960	3,168	2,376	1,980	1,584	1,188	792	396
75*-Over	3,600	3,300	3,000	2,400	1,800	1,500	1,200	900	600	300
<b>Prorated Premium†</b>	<b>\$96</b>	<b>\$88</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$64</b>	<b>\$48</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$32</b>	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$16</b>	<b>\$8</b>

\*No persons age 70 or over (including those desiring additional coverage) will be accepted for new insurance. 9 and 7 units also available. Please write for details.

**INCONTESTABILITY** Your coverage shall be incontestable after it has been in force during your lifetime for two years from its effective date.

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Plan insured by Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company.

**Application Subject to Underwriter's Approval**

## NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential except that Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Co. may make a brief report to the Medical Information Bureau (M.I.B.) a non-profit membership organization of life insurance companies which operates an information exchange on behalf of its members. Upon request by another member insurance company to which you have applied for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted, the M.I.B. will supply such company with the information it may have in its files.

The Company may also release information in its file to its reinsurers and to other life insurance companies to which you may apply for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted.

Upon receipt of a request from you, the M.I.B. will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Medical information will only be disclosed to your attending physician. If you question the accuracy of information in the Bureau's file you may seek correction in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of the Bureau's information office is P.O. Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Mass. 02112; Phone (617) 426-3660.

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The following representations shall form a basis for the Insurance Company's approval or rejection of this enrollment: Answer all questions.

1. Present occupation? \_\_\_\_\_ Are you now actively working?  
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2. Have you been confined in a hospital within the last year? No ☐ Yes ☐ If yes, give date, length of stay and cause \_\_\_\_\_
3. During the last five years, have you had heart disease, circulatory disease, kidney disease, liver disease, lung disease, diabetes, or cancer, or have you had or received treatment or medication for high blood pressure or alcoholism? No ☐ Yes ☐ If yes, give details \_\_\_\_\_

I represent that to the best of my knowledge, all statements and answers recorded on this enrollment card are true and complete. I agree that this enrollment card shall be a part of any insurance granted upon it under the policy. I authorize any physician or other person who has attended or examined me, or who may attend or examine me, to disclose or to testify to any knowledge thus acquired.

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GMA 300-19 12-79

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION

I have received and read the Notice of Disclosure of Information at left. Further, I authorize any physician, medical practitioner, hospital, clinic, or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, the Medical Information Bureau or other organization, institution or person having any records or knowledge of me or of my health to give Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company any such information.

A photographic copy of this authorization shall be as valid as the original.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_ Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I apply for additional Legion Life Insurance. My present certificate number is \_\_\_\_\_



# ORBEN'S WORLD

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No use talking, I've got to lose some weight. Even my tan is too tight.

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## ARMS RACE

*Continued from page 17*

security guarantee. This was effective in turning South Korea off the nuclear road in the 1970s.

In view of all of these arrangements, why worry about future proliferation? One of the key problems is that the basic material used to make bombs is a by-product of nuclear power plants, which are being built as a cheap, reliable source of energy throughout the Third World. As countries develop the facilities and scientific expertise to use nuclear power, they also produce the materials and knowledge necessary to make nuclear weapons. International safeguards are hard to enforce, especially when more than a few countries are capable of supplying nuclear technology.

Even countries that do not have the infrastructure to support a nuclear industry are now probably capable of putting together the technical skills necessary to turn the raw materials of nuclear power—uranium and plutonium—into weapons-grade quality, and to design a bomb mechanism.

As the number of countries working with uranium and especially plutonium increases, so does the opportunity for terrorists to gain possession of these deadly materials. Even in the United States, where you would expect security to be very tight, tests by law enforcement officials have shown that it would be possible for terrorists to steal enough plutonium to make a bomb. Security arrangements in other countries may be less stringent. Possessing plutonium does not in itself give terrorists a nuclear capability, but any group that made the effort to steal it would probably have developed or stolen the means to make it into a bomb.

There have been some successes when our national leaders realize that the stakes are high enough to bend every effort. One involves Libya, a country that embodies what the world could come to if everybody gets the bomb.

In the early 1980s, a Belgium firm agreed to sell Libya a uranium tetrafluoride plant. That gas is not useful for nuclear weapons, but it easily can be transformed into the uranium gas used to make enriched uranium in gaseous diffusion plants. Libya's signature on the NPT is increasingly suspect anyway, because of its state-sponsored export of international terrorism. But, the NPT's watchdog, the IAEA, would not even have been

allowed to watch this plant, since the gas it would produce is not immediately useful for building the bomb.

This proposed transaction brought into play all the influence the United States could bring to bear on its allies. The administration leaned heavily on Belgium to block the sale, and that effort has worked. Belgium is "rethinking" its cooperation with Libya in light of U.S. pressure.

One would hate to see atomic bombs in the hands of a country whose diplomats shoot automatic weapons out embassy windows. That image of the slain British policewoman could be much larger—it could be a slaughtered city. Apparently, even the Soviet Union has drawn the line. The Soviets have been negotiating with Libya over a proposed nuclear power plant since 1977, and not one stone has been laid to begin building it.

The nuclear "genie" has been out of the bottle for some 40 years now, and wish though we might, it can't be put back. It is unreasonable to expect that future nuclear proliferation can be halted completely—there are simply too many trends working against it. However, this does not mean that we should give up all hope of managing the process of proliferation and, wherever possible, restraining it. The United States does have means—from quiet diplomacy to multinational agreements to economic rewards or sanctions—to discourage other nations from building nuclear weapons. For example, in a little noticed recent meeting, the United States and the Soviet Union reached an agreement (despite the relatively poor current state of overall relations between the superpowers) to jointly monitor and work to prevent further proliferation. And if preventing proliferation becomes impossible, perhaps the United States should cooperate with a country acquiring nuclear weapons in order to ensure that those weapons have the best and most sophisticated possible safeguards against accidental or unauthorized use.

Next month in Geneva, Switzerland, the United States and other nations will gather for the regular five-year review of the NPT. What better possible opportunity could our government have to take a tough, critical look at the current arrangements to prevent proliferation, and to rededicate itself to delaying and restricting the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries? Above all, the United States must not stay quiet about this silent arms race, which profoundly threatens the peace and security of the entire world. □



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# THE BIG LIE

Continued from page 26

Castro's African legion a stabilizing force and could liken the history of American race relations to present totalitarian states, we at least moved on in the 1980s to a U.N. ambassador whose values are right-side up.

Mrs. Jeane Kirkpatrick, before leaving the Reagan administration this year, warned eloquently against what she calls the *Doctrine of Moral Equivalence*, the notion that in fundamental moral respects the democracies and communist states are already much alike. The fact that Moral Equivalence is patently absurd does not keep it, like all big lies, from gradually attracting more respectability to itself and throwing a fog of "complexity" around its opposite truth—the more it is repeated in the echo chamber of media, academia, politics and popular culture.

Who are the Moral Equivalizers? Not the great majority of average Americans. Left to their own God-fearing common sense, they take an intelligent pride in their country, have

a fairly good nose for threats to its security, and know a gangster regime when they see one. The ones who have lost their moral compass are the elite minority of opinion leaders and word wielders whom we practical folk tend to trust with the all-important task of interpreting the world to us.

## "WE ARE DETERMINED TO THINK THE BEST OF THE OTHER FELLOW."

Tempting as it is for the rest of us to leave the intellectuals to their foolish fashions and get on with real life, they have acquired far too much power in our information-saturated society for that to be safe. Ideas have consequences, and today's Moral Equivalence mouthings from an influential few can become tomorrow's policy turning point for millions.

The big lie will not just go away. It

must be exposed and shamed by a bigger truth. And that truth must also sharpen some basic distinctions in recent history. One country saved its allies and enemies alike from starvation after two world wars; the other invented in the Ukraine 50 years ago a tactic of terror-by-famine which its Ethiopian stooges are still using today. One's soldiers fell in Saigon defending freedom; the other's fell in Budapest denying freedom. One has been Israel's lifeline for a generation; the other settled a Nazi score with Holocaust resistance hero Raoul Wallenberg, and continues persecuting Jews to this day.

In an America that is really thinking straight, committing Moral Equivalence ought to carry at least as much social stigma as making a racial slur or preaching the flat-Earth theory. That day is coming.

The greatest evil that can befall a man is that he should come to think ill of himself, Goethe said. For a man or a nation, such sickness of the soul is the beginning of the end of a reason to live.

Not for you the lies that enslave and the dreams that ensnare, America. Yours is the truth that makes free—and the freedom that honors truth. □

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# GOLDEN YEARS

Continued from page 23

elderly, non-cash transfers, (food stamps) and assets are taken into account.

"A good deal of evidence indicates that the elderly with spouses are, on average, more financially secure than the non-elderly. But many of the elderly live alone and these individuals, particularly women, often have very limited financial resources; they are often poor. Poverty rates for elderly blacks and the very old are also high.

"Conflicting statements about the economic status of the elderly can sometimes be traced to these differences among the elderly but they also arise for other reasons. The resources of the elderly include income after taxes and assets, as well as transfers both from the government and from families.

"Many of these resources, particularly those that are more important to the elderly than to the non-elderly, are hard to evaluate. In addition, statements about the financial security of the elderly are relative statements; they are based on a comparison of the measured resources of the elderly with the resources of the elderly when they were younger, with other groups, or, in a few cases, with a measure of the needs of the elderly. Different comparisons can lead to different conclusions about the economic status of the elderly as a group.

"Financial distress among the elderly is not so much a function of aging as it is a function of the factors

that lead to low levels of income at all ages. These factors include education, race and work history. The principal exception to this generalization may be for elderly women who lose a spouse, either through death or divorce. Although the loss of a spouse generally lowers household income at any age, the young and men of all ages usually remarry after a divorce or the death of a spouse; older women usually remain single. Elderly widowed men have remarriage rates that are about seven times higher than those of elderly widows.

"The economic status of the elderly is likely to improve in the future. Tomorrow's elderly will earn more income throughout their lives than earlier generations, and thus will accumulate more resources for retirement."

*Clout: Up, for now.* Controversy over these and other points may be setting the stage for a spasm of so-called "generation gap" politics, pitting younger voters against older voters.

A whiff of this shows up in reactions to new federal government policies such as the one allowing states to require children to pay part of the costs for parents in nursing homes under medicaid (the welfare program for indigent individuals).

If such disputes do grow, the numerical odds appear to favor the expanding ranks of late middle-agers and over-65s with their track record of political activism. But too much can be made of this possibility.

Only about 5 percent of elderly Americans live in nursing homes. The majority, even among the very aged, live with their families or independently alone, in a style and atmosphere of well-being never equalled in the past for so many, over so long a span of time. □



## OUTVOTING THE YOUTHS

### % REPORTING THEY VOTED

Age Group	1980 Presidential Race (Reagan vs Carter)	1982 Congressional Elections
18-20	36%	20%
21-24	43%	28%
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Source: Statistical  
Abstract of the  
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# PRESERVING THE BREATH OF LIFE

By Edward Edelson

**W**HEN Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko made his last television appearances before his death, viewers saw a tottering old man, so weak that he could barely gasp out his words. The autopsy report issued by the Kremlin said that Chernenko suffered from a variety of ailments, including hepatitis and cirrhosis.

But the chief cause of his death was a breath-robbing lung disease called emphysema.

American doctors who saw that report knew immediately that Chernenko was a cigarette smoker. Smoking causes 90 percent of emphysema cases, the American Lung Association estimates. Those doctors also know that what happened to Chernenko is happening to hundreds of thousands of American cigarette smokers: A steady destruction of lung tissue that progressively makes it impossible for the body to get the oxygen it needs.

One way to conquer emphysema would be to get all Americans to give up smoking, but lung experts know that won't happen.

"There's no question that if people didn't smoke, an enormous burden of disease would be lifted from this country and the life span would be lengthened for many people," said Dr. Allen B. Cohen, executive associate director of the University of Texas Health Center in Tyler, which specializes in lung diseases. "But most

*Edward Edelson, a science writer for the New York Daily News, specializes in science and medicine writing.*

***It's possible to alleviate the pain of emphysema, but the damage done is irreversible. Do your lungs a favor: Quit smoking.***

approaches to stopping smoking are not successful."

Cohen is a leader of another effort to reduce the toll of emphysema, which killed anywhere from 15,000 to 59,000 Americans last year. (The range is so wide because emphysema is classified as one of several chronic obstructive lung diseases, which are lumped together for statistical purposes.)

This effort started with basic research that showed how emphysema destroys lung tissues, and has produced drugs that already can help stop the disease in some patients and hold promise for helping many more.

What happens in emphysema is a steady deterioration of the fine tissues on the surface of the lungs and bronchi, the tubes through which air reaches the lungs. This respiratory system is one of nature's miracles, designed to get the maximum productivity in a limited space. The task of the lungs is to get oxygen from the air into blood, and carbon dioxide from blood into the air.

The exchange of gases needs as much surface area as possible. The lungs consist of countless tiny sacs called alveoli that provide that service. If you were somehow able to smooth out the entire surface of your lungs, it would cover the area of a tennis court.

In emphysema, the alveoli tear and break down, forming larger sacs with less surface area. In addition, the cilia, tiny hairs that sweep debris out of the respiratory tract, are also put out of service. The end result is a chronic shortage of oxygen.

Basic research on how this damage happens centers on two compounds found in the body, elastase and alpha-1 antitrypsine. Both are enzymes that normally work in coordination. Elastase is sort of a garbage collector that breaks down tissue in the alveoli walls for disposal. Alpha-1 antitrypsine neutralizes elastase to prevent it from going too far. What seems to happen in emphysema is that the alpha-1 antitrypsine is somehow neutralized, so that elastase becomes excessively destructive.

As early as 1962, Swedish researchers noted the relationship between low blood levels of alpha-1 antitrypsine and emphysema. The role of elastase was identified primarily by Dr. Aaron Janoff at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. That basic research now is being used to help patients.

Studies have found that between 2 percent and 5 percent of emphysema patients are fated to get the disease because of a genetic flaw: Their bodies do not make alpha-1, the antitrypsine they need.

"One approach to the disorder in these people is to think about it in the same way you think about hemophilia," said Dr. Ronald Crystal of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. "In hemophilia, we replace the missing factor that allows the blood to clot. In emphysema, we can try to replace the missing alpha-1 antitrypsine."

Tests using alpha-1 antitrypsine extracted from human cells are under way at the institute. "Four years ago





**HELPING THEMSELVES—Emphysema sufferers can find relief by giving up smoking and by exercising regularly.**

vent human suffering but also to produce a profitable compound. "A lot of different companies are working on a lot of different drugs," Janoff said, and each of them, understandably, wants to win the race.

But even if the new drugs work as hoped, the best they can do is to stop the progression of the disease.

Nothing can restore alveoli once they are damaged. "You can't give back air sacs," Crystal said. "Once they're gone, they're gone."

A lot can be done to help patients make the most of their remaining lung function, said Dr. Norman Edelman, consultant for scientific affairs for the American Lung Association. Doctors use antibiotics to prevent the infections that plague emphysema patients and use many methods to keep their respiratory tract as clear as possible.

Research has shown many valuable methods, Edelman said. One is to have the patient breathe pure oxygen.

"You can show that oxygen makes emphysema patients more comfortable and prolongs life," he said.

Another helpful effort is to strengthen the muscles of breathing. "If you improve the strength of muscles for breathing, you improve the performance of patients with emphysema," Edelman said.

And nutrition is getting increased attention. Emphysema is a wasting disease and there is evidence that the wasting process makes the emphysema worse, Edelman said. A number of researchers are working to improve the nutritional status of patients, "and there's some early evidence that it may be an important way to improve the status of these people," he said.

we did a test to see if we could build up blood levels of the enzyme," Crystal said. "The answer was yes, we could by once-a-week injections. Now we're doing a six-month trial on 20 patients."

It won't be easy to prove that the injections can stop lung damage in persons with the genetic form of emphysema, Crystal said. In most patients, the disease develops over many years, even decades.

"To show that you can slow down the rate of the disease you need a very large trial with lots of people," he said.

There's another approach that is being financed by a number of pharmaceutical companies and is aimed at helping the great majority of emphysema patients.

It is based on the belief that cigarette smoke leads to emphysema because it oxidizes the alpha-1 antitrypsin molecule, making it ineffective against elastase.

"We've now made a form of alpha-1 antitrypsin that is resistant to oxidation by cigarette smoke," Janoff said.

"It could be used in the recalcitrant heavy smoker who shows signs of emphysema but won't stop smoking."

The idea is to use the new wizardry of genetic engineering, Janoff said. Biologists can alter the alpha-1 antitrypsin molecule just enough to fit

**S** TRENGTHENING breathing muscles, improving nutrition and inhaling oxygen can make emphysema patients more comfortable and prolong life.

their needs. Then they can insert the gene for the altered molecule into bacteria, which pump out large quantities of the compound.

Researchers are reluctant to talk about the details of their work, because they are in a highly competitive field and their goal is not only to pre-

While the research goes on, emphysema's toll continues to rise. What we're seeing now, Edelman said, is the result of the upswing in cigarette smoking that began during World War II. The best long-term hope is that Americans will do their lungs a favor by discontinuing to smoke. □





*"It's hard to believe he was only a major when he retired from the Air Force."*

## Comfort Zone

August is the month you can't open the bus window that you couldn't close in December.

—Henry E. Leabo

## Eagle Eye

A husband told the judge he wanted a divorce because his wife did bird impressions.

"Bird impressions?" the judge asked.

"Yes, your Honor," the man said. "She watches me like a hawk."

—Oliver E. Frazier

## Reruns

Experience is a marvelous thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake whenever you make it again.

—Shelley Bassett

## Coordinated Interiors

They now have coffee dispensers for office use that look exactly like filing cabinets. These will match up with a lot of coffee drinkers who look exactly like office workers.

—John B. Klein

## I'm Tough!

When it's time for me to face life's greatest computer, I hope it can be told that though I'm spindled and mutilated, I did not fold.

—Abner W. Smith

## Brain Strain

Husband coming home from the office to wife:

"What a day! The computer broke down and we all had to think."

—Oscar Thornbuckle

## Convenient

When I asked my husband to start a garden for me, the first thing he dug up was an excuse.

—Gladys W. Jacquette

## Recycled

Small boy to his friend: "If you're a President, after you die they make dimes and pennies out of you."

—Morris B. White

## Timid Heir

Scrawled on the walls of a London pub are the words:

"The meek shall inherit the Earth."

Underneath it someone wrote:

"If that's okay with the rest of you."

—Paul Short

## Enduring Prose

You don't have to be an author to write something that has a chance of living forever. Just sign a mortgage.

—George E. Bergman

## Ding-a-ling

Husband holding telephone says to wife: "It's our son who believes in free speech. He's calling collect again."

—Mrs. Addie Warner

## Definition:

Egotism: I infection.

—Frank Tyger



*"I'm not good at foreign languages, but that \$4.95 looks appetizing to me."*



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